



Canyon Call

The official newsletter of the Sunset Canyon Land Owners Association • Mar 2019
www.sunsetcanyon.org



The Canyon Call is your newsletter. We want to hear from you!
Email tips, stories, articles, recipes, or whatever else you'd like to share to Peggy at newsletter@sunsetcanyon.org

SCLA President's Update

Dear Sunset Canyon Land Owners:

The SCLA is a low cost, light touch, neighborhood friendly association. The new five year contract with Waste Connections (WC) is an example of the Association at work for you.

The SCLA Board received proposals from three trash and recycling companies that service the Sunset Canyon area. Waste Connections made the best proposal and effective February 1, 2019, Waste Connections was designated the preferred provider for trash collection and recycling services for Sunset Canyon at much lower costs than currently charged by WC or any of the other companies servicing our area. The quarterly rates, including tax, are as follows:

Trash only \$68.20
Trash and recycling \$81.19
Extra trash container \$10.83
Extra recycling container \$4.33

If you are currently a Waste Connections' customer, the transition to the new rate structure will be automatic and bills will be adjusted if you have already prepaid at a higher rate. You can sign up with Waste Connections by calling 512-282-3508. My experience with this number is to call after 2 pm to get through to a person quickly.

WC trash collection will continue to be weekly on Thursdays and recycling will be every other Thursday. The Thursday schedule will be adjusted for holidays so please see the complete schedule posted on the SCLA website. Along with the schedule, there is information about how many extra bags or boxes of trash can be put out and a list of what materials can be recycled.

As part of the deal, Waste Connections is providing an **annual FREE bulk waste pickup** the second Saturday in May which is May 11th this year. The FREE bulk waste pickup is for Sunset Canyon residents who

are Waste Connections customers. Each customer can put out up to 4 cubic yards of bulk trash, which is actually quite a lot of material. Again see the SCLA website for more information about bulk waste packaging, collection, and some examples of how many trash bags fit in 4 cubic yards. Note the May 11th bulk waste pickup is FREE but at other times during the year you can have Waste Connections pick up bulk trash for a set fee as listed on the SCLA website – sunsetcanyon.org.

The recycle pickup will now be every other week. This change was not made because of our agreement with Waste Connections but was scheduled to happen in the near future anyway. Most residents I have talked to have no problem with the biweekly schedule. Waste Connections has priced a second full size recycle cart at \$4.33 per quarter for residents who recycle a high volume of material. The residents I have talked to view this as a good option but after thinking about their actual recycle volume most have decided a second cart is not necessary.

Waste Connections currently services a large majority of the homes in Sunset Canyon. Changing to Waste Connections will not only save you money, but if all Sunset Canyon residents become Waste Connections customers, we will be reducing the wear and tear on our roads by reducing the number of trash trucks driving through our neighborhood. Using a single company will also reduce the number of days in a week residents have to dodge large trash vehicles.

The residents of Sunset Canyon owe Kurt Nelson a thank you for suggesting rate negotiation to the Board and playing a lead role in making it happen.

Steve Gallun
SCLA President

To participate in community dialogue: Join
NextDoor SunsetCanyon or SunsetCanyonSouth
<https://nextdoor.com>

The board does not monitor or sponsor this group.

VIP CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR Sunset Canyon

Since a safer and more secure Sunset Canyon would benefit EVERY resident, please read on to learn how we can achieve this goal if we work together as a community.

Ron Hood, Hays County Precinct 4 Constable, attended a recent board meeting and said the fast growth of Dripping Springs will lead to more crime and that NOW is the time to put prevention plans in place. He will be asking all of his communities to establish Volunteer in Patrol (VIP) programs similar to those that have been successful and established in Dallas 20 years ago. The VIP program will be a group of resident volunteers who patrol Sunset Canyon and report suspicious events to the local police. The patrol volunteers do not leave their cars or confront people.

Volunteers could commit to as little as a few hours a month driving around the community with a magnetic car door sign, a magnetic yellow flashing light, and VIP identification. Since thieves are most active during the day while people are at work, we would concentrate on daylight hours. Volunteers will need to pass a background check and attend a training session administered by the Constable's office.

THIS PROGRAM WILL ONLY BE SUCCESSFUL TO THE DEGREE THAT OUR COMMUNITY (YOU) SUPPORTS IT! We need people and we need funding for supplies and operations (e.g. T-shirts, magnetic signs etc). **Please consider either volunteering your time OR sending a donation.** We already had a person volunteer to coordinate the launch and monitor the program and have received \$100 in donations. To volunteer/have questions, call/text/email the Captain (Paul Wiljanen) at 361-265-8161, atLargeE@sunsetcanyon.org OR donate \$10 or more, by sending a check to Sunset Canyon Land Owners Association, PO Box 588, Dripping Springs, TX, 78620 or contact the Captain for other payment options.

Here's to everyone pitching in and coming together neighbor to neighbor to build a community that is safe, friendly, and attractive.

Oak Meadow-Headwaters Connector

As noted in the December 2018 issue of Canyon Call, Ray Whisenant, our then current Hays County Commissioner Pct 4, was to have the county's position memorialized at the December meeting of the Commissioners Court. This has been delayed until there is a better understanding of an unresolved issue of a "spite strip" of land at the access point. According to Walt Smith, the new County Commissioner, he should hear back on the findings about the spite strip in March. He should proceed with the Commissioners Court hearing at that time. The position remains "Any physical connection from the Headwaters at Barton Creek subdivision to Oak Meadow Drive in Sunset Canyon subdivision will be an Emergency Ingress/Egress Access Gate." I will provide an update on the SCLA website sunsetcanyon.org when the Commissioners Court hearing happens.

Paul Wiljanen, SCLA Rep

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall of the Sunset Canyon Baptist Church usually on the **second Monday of each month**. Any changes to the monthly meeting dates will be posted on our website sunsetcanyon.org. All residents are welcome to attend. If you have any issue to bring before the Board, please let the President know at least three working days prior to the meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr 8, 2019 - Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC
May 11, 2019 - Annual BULK Trash Pickup
May 13, 2019 - Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC
Jun 10, 2019 - Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC
Jul 8, 2019 - Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC
Oct 1, 2019 - National Night Out
(SCBC - Sunset Canyon Baptist Church)

Association Information
SUNSET CANYON LANDOWNER'S ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 588 - Dripping Springs, TX 78620
www.SunsetCanyon.org

Officers:

President.....Steve Gallun 512-970-4763
president@SunsetCanyon.org

Vice President..... Randy Foster (512) 858-4038
vp@SunsetCanyon.org

Secretary.....Becky Gallun
secretary@SunsetCanyon.org

Treasurer..... Joan Thomas (512) 632-5118
treasurer@SunsetCanyon.org

Directors:

At-Large..... Sandy Hale (512)-858-5637
atLargeA@SunsetCanyon.org

At-Large.....Sarah Wigfield (760) 889-4212
atLargeB@SunsetCanyon.org

At-Large..... Peggy Grambo (512)970-0695
atLargeC@SunsetCanyon.org

At-Large.....Lynn Dawson (512) 858-0961
atLargeD@SunsetCanyon.org

At-Large Paul Wiljanen (361) 265-8161
AtLargeE@SunsetCanyon.org

Committee Chairs:

Infrastructure.....Gary Hale (512) 858-5637
infrastructure@SunsetCanyon.org

Website/Newsletter...Peggy Grambo (512) 970-0695
newsletter@SunsetCanyon.org

Welcome Committee..Sandy Hale (512) 858-5637
welcome@SunsetCanyon.org

Please let Sandy Hale know of new neighbors moving in so that her team can welcome them with a helpful packet of information and goodies.



Local Items of Interest

DS is a **Dark Sky** community. This means we strive to minimize the effects of artificial light on both humans and wildlife. Please consider turning off your outdoor lights at night, especially flood lights, or consider installing motion detector versions.

<https://www.darksky.org/our-work/grassroots-advocacy/education-and-outreach/>

On January 17, 2019, the Dripping Springs City Council presented the **Transportation Master Plan** to the public. Page 7 of the plan contains information on the 40 developments planned for DS and the surrounding area. A copy of this plan is posted on the sunsetcanyon.org website.

Dripping Springs City Council on March 12 approved a new ordinance **that prohibits the use of motor-assisted scooters** and like vehicles within the city limits. The ordinance includes a fine for individuals who leave regulated dockless options at public places. Companies such as Bird, Jump, Lime and Ojo will not be allowed to bring electric scooters and other dockless mobility options to the city of Dripping Springs in the foreseeable future.

According to the ordinance, those who operate or leave a motorized scooter on public sidewalks, streets, properties and parks in Dripping Springs are subject to a fine up to \$500.

Mars Beads and Fourth Rock Records opened a joint storefront March 1 at 400 W. Hwy. 290, Dripping Springs. Mars Beads offers consumers an opportunity to create their own beaded jewelry and was previously open in Lakeway at 2300 Lohmans Spur, Ste. 165, for five years. Fourth Rock Records is a store selling vinyl records. Both stores replace Star of Texas Liquor, Beer & Wine, which closed Dec. 31. 512-296-2308. www.marsbeads.com, www.fourthrockrecords.com

The Pickle House, a new Southern restaurant with a heavy emphasis on pickles is taking over the former Lox, Box, and Barrel space on 9521 Highway 290. The menu features a ton of pickles, naturally, including a dedicated pickle bar with 12 varieties. The Southern-leaning menu will feature dishes like pickle fried chicken, pickles and queso, fried pickle cheeseburgers. Non-pickle dishes will include chicken pot pie, smothered country pork chops, and morning biscuit sandwiches. Beverages include beer, wine, coffee, and fountain drinks.

Discover the magical dance of Argentine Tango at **Tango Tribe** 5446 W. Hwy 290 Ste. 105
www.tangotribe.com No experience necessary and no partner necessary. It doesn't matter whether you come with zero dance experience or extensive dance

training, we have an approach to learning that we feel makes maximum use of a person's natural abilities to move and instincts to express music.

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Improve Safety in Sunset Canyon – Are You Inviting Burglars to Visit Your Home?

Ron Hood, Hays County Precinct 4 Constable, attended the March SCLA Board Meeting and shared his view of potential crime in Dripping Springs due to the rapid population increase in our area. Other cities that have undergone similar population changes have often experienced increases in property crime. As a result of Ron's talk, the Board believes that we need to start reminding residents of the things they can do to minimize property crime. None of what follows is rocket science, but it does not hurt to remind ourselves of the things we should do.

Mail and package theft can be minimized by not leaving material in the mail box or on the porch for extended periods of time after delivery. We should all have some idea of the time the USPS delivers our mail and should check the box as soon as possible after this time. Mail containing financial information or small packages should be placed in the mail box close to pick up time or else taken to the post office or a central collection box.

Informed Delivery is a free notification feature from the US Postal Service that gives residential consumers the ability to digitally preview their letter-sized mail and manage their packages scheduled to arrive soon. Informed Delivery benefits the entire household by allowing users to view what is coming to their mailbox whenever, wherever – even while traveling – on a computer, tablet, or mobile device. Visit informeddelivery.USPS.com to sign up.

If you park your car outside, lock it and do not leave valuables in it. Do not leave your garage or shed open or unlocked. If the garage is in the front of the house and you are working in the back yard, shut the garage door. If you have a power garage door but do not have a key pad to open or close the door, a battery operated key pad can be purchased for about \$40 and installed in 15 minutes. No wiring is required.

When leaving town do not leave your empty trash can at the curb. A quick phone call can stop newspaper delivery and you can get your mail held by filing out a USPS mail hold request online or filling out a yellow USPS mail hold form and putting it in your mail box a few days before going out of town. (Note, if you request to have your mail forwarded, you will not receive your Canyon Call. Just go online to sunsetcanyon.org to view it). Get to know your neighbors and let them know when you will be out of town. Your neighbor can pick up miscellaneous stuff tossed in your driveway and perhaps bring your trash can in for you.

Some people have automatic services performed on their property such as filling propane tanks or inspection of sewer treatment systems. With a little effort, you can get these vendors to never leave service completion notices or invoices at your door. Have them mail or email you the required paperwork even when you are in town.

If there are additional things that can be done to protect your property, please email them to the SCLA Board and we will include them in future Canyon Calls.

What are some of the things the SCLA Board working on now?

- In the process of selecting an attorney to review our By-Laws to make sure that we are in compliance with Texas Property Code. This action was approved at the annual meeting in January.
- Updating our website – we are working with LucidCrew – a local website design company whose owners are Sunset Canyon residents to get a new, fresh and professional look. As part of that effort we would like to include a slide show of pictures from the Sunset Canyon neighborhood. Do you have any photographs of the Sunset Canyon neighborhood that you would like to share? We would also like to know why people like living in Sunset Canyon, i.e., large lot size, low key SCLA, ability to keep boats, RV's on your lot, etc. Please email pictures and comments to newsletter@sunsetcanyon.org
- Investigating options for alternative methods of payment for SCLA dues
- Annual review of our financial records
- Investigating ways to improve the safety and security of our neighborhood
- Representing the Sunset Canyon neighborhood in the Headwaters Developer/City of Dripping Springs/Hays County discussions about the Oak Meadow connector

What do you get for your \$35 SCLA dues?

Here are some examples of our Association's mantra - neighbors helping neighbors:

- Works with local law enforcement and county officials to:
 - Investigate traffic issues caused by new businesses or construction
 - Get pot holes fixed and overhanging tree limbs trimmed when the problems are reported to us by a resident
- Playing an active role in getting the best possible solution to the Oak Meadow & Headwaters connection issue
- Reviews construction plans for residents to help owners avoid future problems with Deed Restrictions such as set back issues
- Maintains the landscape and pays for the electricity that illuminates the Sunset Canyon entrance signs
- Hired an attorney to successfully defend a lawsuit brought against SCLA by a potential new business requesting that the main entrance sign on Sunset Canyon Drive be removed at SCLA's expense despite a valid easement
- Negotiated lower rates for trash collection and recycling with Waste Connections - we have a five year commitment
- Publishes the Canyon Call quarterly to inform residents of Sunset Canyon of things in the community that might impact their life style
- Organizes and supports the National Night Out in our subdivision
- Has a Welcome committee that visits new residents to give them information about our community and SCLA



INVOICE – 2019 DUES

Please support your Neighborhood by joining or renewing your membership today. In keeping with our cost conscious tradition, we are including this dues invoice in the quarterly newsletter rather than paying to print and mail a separate bill. The 2019 Sunset Canyon Land Owners Association dues are still **\$35**.

If you are a Nassour lot owner, your dues are mandatory. A late fee of \$10 will be added if dues are not paid before April 1, 2019. Please refer to your deed restrictions which will confirm your designation as a Nassour lot.

Please tear off this page, make any changes to your address label and make your checks payable to:

Sunset Canyon Land Owners Association (or SCLA)
P. O. Box 588
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

If you have any questions regarding your invoice, please contact Joan Thomas at treasurer@sunsetcanyon.org



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