

**Wynlakes Homeowners
Association**

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SUPERVIEWS by Dennis Weber

Because of the infamous Prairie soil we have in our area, choosing plants for your landscape can be a real "hit or miss" proposition. Our Prairie soil is not uniform. There are two distinctly different soils which need to be identified if you are to have success with your plant selections.

One is the acid type Prairie clay which will allow some water percolation and has a pH of -4.5.5 The other soil is alkaline clay which does not percolate water and will have pH readings of 7.5 or higher. Underneath these two top soils is an extremely alkaline subsoil and in some areas it is so close to the surface that it creates an almost toxic environment for plants to try and grow. This soil is usually chalky looking. It is advisable to check your soil type before planting. The directions for doing a soil test can be found on the Alabama Co-operative Extension Service website (www.aces.edu). Look for old large pines which will most definitely tell you your soil is very alkaline. If possible, remove this soil and replace with good soil used in raised or bordered beds.

Once you have figured out your soil type, you can proceed with selecting appropriate plants. A list of plants for each soil type can be found on the same website. Also, most local nurseries and garden stores can offer advice. The best first step is to drive around your neighborhood and see what others are planting. Take pictures of what does and doesn't look good. The plant store personnel can then identify and guide you through what you'll need for a successful landscape.



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WWW.WYNLAKESHOA.COM

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April
2012

Wynlakes
HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION



Plans for 2012: Wynlakes is over 25 years old and is starting to show its age. Following is our plan to upgrade and repair the landscape. First, we are going to attack the wax myrtles along Vaughn Road and the Pinecrest Gate. They are in need of some care and those that do not respond will be removed. That threat should scare them. We will try to extend the plantings along the front wall and add some to the island off Lakeridge. We will continue to slowly replace over-grown shrubbery, as needed. Trees and shrubs need to be pruned carefully, not sheared, to keep them looking healthy and nice. Even then, they often grow too big for the area. The last few years of drought certainly damaged our landscape and has made restoring it our number one priority.

We are also trying to replace the holiday train we put out on Longneedle each year. It is difficult to find one that size. They are either huge for a mall or small for a yard. But we continue to search and hope to add that to our holiday decorations this year.

Security: Please add the number for Security in your cell phone - 279.8358- so if you are out and notice something odd or suspicious, you can call immediately. Call them to report anything or anyone that should not be here. Security is here to help.

THE WYNLAKES HOA DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY RECOMMEND OR ENDORSE THE INDIVIDUALS, SERVICES, BUSINESSES OR PRODUCTS LISTED, AND CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE OR LIABLE FOR ANY PUBLISHED AD.

TRAMPOLINES VS INSURER

Recently there was a feature on the evening news entitled "Trampolines 'Bounce' Home Insurance" which said that a homeowner had purchased a trampoline and the insurer informed him that he had to get rid of the trampoline or lose his liability insurance. The feature quoted an insurance agent who said that "most companies won't cover third party trampoline claims. There are a few companies that will, but you must sign a liability exclusion." Also stated "Your house is still covered, your contents are still covered, but liability from a claim with that trampoline would not be covered".

"State Insurance Commissioner Jim Ridling encourages homeowners to call their agents to update them on high risk items, and says they should ask questions." The HOA checked with several insurers and was told that each homeowner really should verify coverage with their agent.

The Wynlakes HOA office will be closed Friday, April 6, 2012, Monday, May 28, 2012 and Wednesday July 4, 2012.



Couple's Bridge Club

The Club meets every 2nd Saturday of the month at 6 P.M. You are invited to come and enjoy a social game of bridge with your neighbors. Call JoAnne Golden for more information at 334.244.0005.

Book Club

Anyone interested in starting a book club that would meet in the evening please call the HOA office and leave your name and telephone number.



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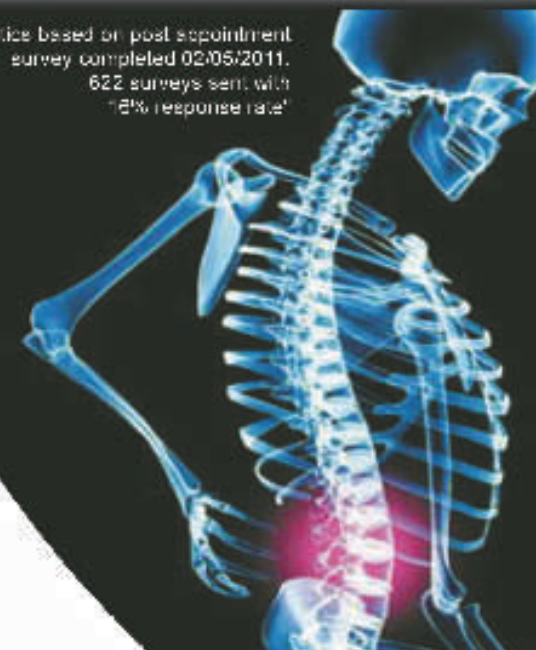
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Each year, more than 4,000 Americans die in fires, more than 25,000 are injured in fires, and more than 100 fire-fighters are killed while on duty. Eighty-three percent of all civilian fire deaths occurred in residences. Many of these fires could have been prevented.

Cooking is the third leading cause of fire deaths and the leading cause of injury among people ages 65 and older.

Direct loss due to fires is estimated at nearly **\$8.6 billion** annually. Intentionally set structure fires resulted in an estimated **\$664 million** in property damage.

In order to protect yourself, it is important to understand the basic characteristics of fire.

- **Fire is FAST.** In just two minutes, a fire can become life-threatening. In five minutes, a residence can be engulfed in flames.
- **Fire is DARK.** Fire produces gases that make you disoriented and drowsy. Instead of being awakened by a fire, you may fall into a deeper sleep. Asphyxiation is the leading cause of fire deaths, exceeding burns by a three-to-one ratio.
- **Fire is HOT.** Heat and smoke from fire can be more dangerous than the flames. Inhaling the superhot air can sear your lungs.

The following are things you can do to protect yourself, your family, and your property in the event of a fire:

- Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your residence.
- Have an escape plan. Review escape routes with your family and teach them to stay low to the floor.
- Keep matches and lighters away from children. If you smoke, do so responsibly.
- Do not overload extension cords or outlets and make sure outlet have cover plates.



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REMINDERS

All exterior work on a house or in the yard must be approved before work begins. You may obtain a Modification Request Form from our website: www.wynlakeshoa.com or pick up one at the HOA office. Please submit requests several weeks before your project is scheduled to begin. The committee needs time to review the request and ask any questions.

MAILBOXES: If you have a problem with your mailbox, or it is damaged and needs to be replaced, please call Imperial Mailboxes at 334-657-5215. They will handle all your mailbox problems.

ANIMALS: Are you guilty of any of the following: Allowing your dog to bark constantly- early morning or late at night? The HOA has been getting frequent phone calls regarding barking dogs in the neighborhood. What may be a joyful sound to you can be an annoyance to others. Please be a good neighbor and not let your pet be an annoyance to those who live around you. Also, we have received a number of complaints of dogs being allowed to “poop” on the sidewalks or lawns of others. If you walk your dog, please use bags for cleanup and take them with you. No one wants to pick up after someone else’s animal.



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Jay Kim
 President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011– 2012

This past year, we added two new members to the Board: Steve German in District 9 and Penelope Poitevint in District 5. We wish to thank Wayne Sandlin and Paul Cocker for their time and effort on the Board. We will miss both of you.

District 1– Jim Ippolito

District 2– Darrel Warner

District 3– Spencer Swan

District 4– David Wills

District 6– Wally Hester

District 7– Shirley Rose

District 8– Jean Mattison

The Board is responsible for: the affairs of the Association, overseeing the manager, making and amending rules and regulations, enforcing by legal means the rules and regulations, and interpreting the Declaration and By-Laws. They meet once a month with the Manager to discuss the current status of Wynlakes and make plans for the future. Each Board member has three Neighborhood Representatives for his/her district. The Neighborhood Reps are responsible for bringing any problems in his/her area to the attention of the Board member or the HOA Office. If it is something that the HOA Office can handle quickly, please call us. Remember if every one helps, we can keep Wynlakes a beautiful place to live and maintain our property values. Thanks to the Board and our Neighborhood Representatives for all they do.



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More than 20 homes in Wynlakes have these windows