

Westbury Crier

VOLUME 67, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2022

Join the 2023 WCC Board

Nomination Deadline - August 11

Elections for the 2023 WCC Board of Directors will be conducted in September at the WCC Annual Meeting. All nominations must be received before 4 PM on the second Thursday of August, which is August 11, the deadline specified in our bylaws.



Come join a great group of volunteers who strive to keep our

neighborhood a great place to call home! The board does this in many ways from flood advocacy, esplanade beautification, park workdays, security, enforcement of the deed restrictions, and much more.

Please express your interest in running for the board of the Westbury Civic Club by letter or by email. If you send an email, please use the subject line of WCC 2023 Elections. Email westburycc@sbcglobal.net. The mailing address is 5322 W. Bellfort, Ste. 100, Houston, TX, 77035.

- → All board members must be a listed Owner of Record for a property in Westbury, Parkwest, or Westbury South.
- → Section Directors must be a listed Owner of Record of home that is in the section they wish to represent.
- → Candidates must submit interest to serve on the board by the deadline and must include the following statement filled out. "My name is and I declare that I am eligible to be a Director or Officer of the Westbury Civic Club. I am the listed Owner of Record for (street address)."
- → Candidates may submit a statement, up to 100 words in length.
- → All candidates must include contact information including address, phone number, email, etc.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at 713-723-5437.

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Support the Westbury Civic Club TODAY! **PAY YOUR 2022 DUES!** WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

NEXT WCC Board

Wednesday August 17, 7PM Westbury Baptist Church

Hurricane Season is Here

Be Prepared. Have a Plan.

August and September are historically the most active months for storms in the Gulf of Mexico. Being prepared and knowing what to do are key. There is no need to panic if you are prepared and have a plan.

We live in a huge city close to the coast, so there is different advice for certain areas. It is important to know where you live. Westbury is NOT in an evacuation zone. A long-time hurricane saying is: "Run from the surge, hide from the wind." This means that the average Westbury homeowner should remain at home inside sheltered in place during the event. See page 9 for tips on what to do if a hurricane is coming.

When there is an active storm in the Gulf of Mexico, especially during August and September, you should always pay close attention to a trusted weather source on what is happening with the storm. Page 8 has a list of weather sources. If in doubt, go straight to the National Hurricane Center website, www.nhc.noaa.gov.

Flooding is still a concern with hurricanes. Really, any time it rains in Houston, we are concerned about flooding. Hurricanes can bring localized flash flooding with heavy rain bands, so streets could flood. Properties that regularly flood during high rain events could flood, depending on the rate of rainfall. However, this is no different than any other major rain storm in the sense of flood risks. Page 8 gives the links to the flood gages and how to look up that information. Also you can learn how the Westbury gage works and when you should be concerned if you live near the Willow Waterhole Bayou.

Pages 8 and 9 contain many helpful articles about storm prep, alerts, weather resources, and more.

HEAVY TRASH RECYCLING

August 2022

Thurs., August 11 **JUNK WASTE**

September 2022

Thursday, Sept. 8 TREE WASTE ONLY

August 2022

Thursday, August 11 Thursday, August 25

September 2022

Thursday, Sept. 8 Thursday, Sept. 22



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

WCC OFFICE

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035 Jennifer Edmondson......WCC Office Manager

> **Westbury Civic Club Office Hours** Mon.-Thurs., 10AM-12PM WCC Office Closed Friday-Sunday

NOTARY SERVICES— available to paid WCC members

CONTACT US

WCC Office Telephone	713-723-5437
WCC Office Email	westburycc@sbcglobal.net
Deed Restrictions	westburycc@sbcglobal.net
WCC Presidentwo	ccpresident@westburycrier.com

Visit our website at www.westburycrier.com "Like" us on Facebook at Westbury Houston

SECURITY

Pct. 5 Constables (WAP)281-463-66	66
Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and vacation watc	
Emergency	911
Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency 713-884-3	131
Southwest HPD Station832-394-0	400

CITY OF HOUSTON

District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum	832-393-3016
District C Council Member, Abbie Kamin	832-393-3004
Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal)	.832-393-6333
Platou Community Center	713-726-7107
Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office	832-393-0955
Houston Help & Information	311

For missed garbage pickup, water line breaks, potholes sewer repairs, dead animals, traffic signals, heavy trash violations, neighborhood nuisances, and other city services

CENTERPOINT ENERGY

Electric outage	713-207-2222
Suspected natural gas leak	713-659-2111
Street light repairs	713-207-2222

Make sure to give pole number

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis	713-755-6111
Graffiti	www.braysoaksmd.org
Shopping Cart Removal	www.braysoaksmd.org
Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use "re	eport a problem" link
Poison Control	1-800-764-7661
Harris County Tax office	713-368-2000
Harris County Appraisal District	713-957-7800

2022 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Contact the Westbury Civic Club at 713-723-5437 or westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Cindy Chapman
wccpresident@westbu	ırycrier.com
Vice President	Marcia Hartman
Secretary	Susan Brock
Treasurer	Becky Edmondson

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications	Lauren Figard
Community Relations	Tony Robert
Deed Restrictions	Maggie Donovan
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Jennifer Edmondson
Greenspace Beautification	Mat Funk
Membership	VACANT
Security	Stephen Deavult
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT

SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1	Santiago Caraballo
Westbury 2	Lindsey Pollock
Westbury 3	Jeff Benavides
Westbury 3	Jonathan Hansen
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls
Westbury 4	Becky Pate
Westbury 5	Andrew Jefferson
Westbury 5	Donna Strom
Westbury South	VACANT
Parkwest 1	Angie Furnari
Parkwest 2	Bob Droubi
Parkwest 3	Alan Hirshman

POSTED WCC BOARD VACANCIES CAN BE FILLED AT ANY REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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A Message from the Westbury Civic Club Treasurer

This month's President message is being brought to you by Becky Edmondson, the WCC Treasurer. I asked Cindy Chapman if I could have her space this month. I have two things on my mind. First, I want to talk about serving on the WCC. It's that time of year when we ask for people to join the board.

June was my 20th anniversary of having joined the Westbury Civic Club board. It is hard to believe it has been that long. I started out as a section director, moved to Director of Community Relations, then President and now Treasurer. My life is definitely better for having served! I have met so many amazing people and made some wonderful friends. And maybe most surprisingly, serving on the board has made me love Houston even more. I have learned so much about how our City functions, and how government and politics work. And I have been amazed at the very talented and caring people I have met that work for the City.

I've learned to love my neighborhood, too. We often tend to focus on what's missing and forget to notice what we have. We have this amazingly diverse neighborhood of 5,000 homes, 4 parks, a community center, good schools and so much more. Using the Westbury Super Neighborhood boundary, we can add in 3,500 multifamily units. In the past 20 years, we've added 7 acres of greenspace with the Westbury Community garden and 300 acres at the Willow Waterhole. Both of those projects had leadership from WCC board members. We have a new regional library coming. We have flood mitigation projects pending. Do we wish something good would happen to Westbury Square? Absolutely. I personally spoke with the owner just last week about the conditions and again suggested that it was time to demolish the areas that are crumbling down.

For the past 66 years, people like you have stepped up and volunteered their time to help their neighborhood be the best that it can be. It's one reason that Westbury is still a viable sought after place to live.

The second reason I asked to write his month's message: We need everyone to contribute to the Westbury Area Constable patrol. Most neighborhoods around us have mandatory assessments, but in Westbury only two of the Parkwest sections have assessments. The rest of the neighborhood is



asked to pay voluntarily. For 66 years this system has worked. Covid has affected everyone's bottom line and your Civic Club is no different. The constable program has had an increase which will go into effect with our October payment. Through June 14, 2022 we've collected \$235,894 of our \$422,485 budget. We need your help.

We need to collect another \$185,000 to cover expense through the end of the year. If you can afford the full \$365 please pay that today. If that is a stretch, please make a partial payment. Crime is on the increase and having law enforcement able to respond quickly is so important. How important is your and your family's safety? I can't imagine living without the deputies nearby and waiting to respond. Last month I heard my front door knob rattle at 2AM. In a blind panic I dialed Pct.5; the dispatcher stayed on the line with me until the deputies arrived shortly thereafter. I was so thankful to have them.

Please send your dues in today and encourage your neighbors! It's easy to pay on our website through PayPal. Or drop a check in the mail using the form in the Crier or drop a check through the mail slot at the WCC office.

Thank you for making Westbury such a great place to live.
-Becky Edmondson



WCC Board Notes - July 2022

- → There was no Westbury Civic Club board meeting in July.
- → The next WCC board meeting will be August 17 at 7pm at Westbury Baptist
- → If you are interested in joining the WCC board, please see page 1 and send your nomination in by the August 11 deadline.

NEXT WCC Board

Wednesday August 17, 7PM

IN PERSON MEETING

Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room

Meeting will be livestreamed on the Westbury Houston Facebook page.

Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney $\bar{R}ock~Rd$ 713-726-7107 * platou@houstontx.gov



New Supervisor — Dajai Tennard Email—Dajai.Tennard@houstontx.gov

Platou Center is open from 9:30AM—6PM, Monday—Friday

Adult Classes @ The Platou Center



Adult programming 🗐 will resume on August 22.



(See box to the right)

Kids Summer Enrichment Program June 13—August 19

There will be a summer program offered this summer for children at the Platou Center. For more information, contact Dejai Tennard by phone or email to Dejai. Tennard @houstontx.gov. You can register by the week through Parks Department City of Houston website.

Westbury Pool Closed

Due to a mechanical failure, the Westbury Pool is CLOSED. The current word from the City of Houston is the pool will likely be closed all summer. Please check the Westbury Houston Facebook page for updates.

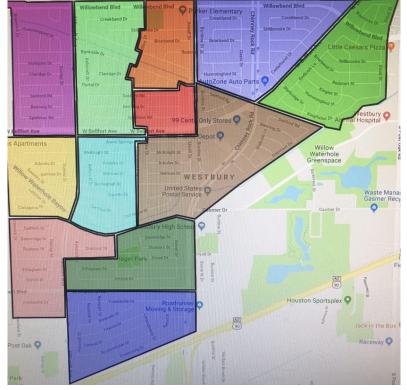


Adult Programming Returns August 22

Exercise—M/W/F, 9:30-10:30AM Quilting—Tuesday, 9:30AM –2PM Games—Wednesday, 10AM—12PM New Members are Needed—Other Times can be added if interested. Ping Pong—Thursday, 9:30-10:30AM

There is currently plenty of Room on the Platou Center Calendar. If you are interested in something particular, like games, exercise, line dancing, ping pong, genealogy, crafts and other great get together ideas, call Dajai Tennard at 713-726-7107. There are no bad ideas!

Map of Westbury by Section



Westbury is the 2nd largest neighborhood in the City of Houston with 5,000 homes. One reason Westbury has remained such a viable and desirable neighborhood is because of the very active Westbury Civic Club. The WCC has been advocating and working hard for the neighborhood for over 60 years. We often refer to different sections when talking about current or upcoming city projects, crime, or events. This handy map can also be found on our website, www.westburycrier.com.

Parkwest 1	198 homes
Parkwest 2	443 homes
Parkwest 3	311 homes
Westbury 1	543 homes
Westbury 2	530 homes
Westbury 3	853 homes
Westbury 4	834 homes
Westbury 5	501 homes
Westbury 5	150 homes
Westbury South	563 homes

What's Happening in Westbury

AUGUST 2022 Calendar Events/Meetings

Thurs 11	Deadline for WCC Board Nomination See page 1	
Thurs 11	HEAVY TRASH PICK UP—JUNK WASTE	
Wed 17 WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Held via Zoom		
Wed 17	Westbury Civic Club Meeting Westbury Baptist Gamer Room, 10425 Hillcroft	7PM
Sat 20	Audubon Society Bird Survey 5310 South Willow Monthly bird survey	7-9AM
Tues 22	School Starts for Houston ISD	

PLAN AHEAD

September 21 WCC Annual Meeting

Late October/ Early November Fall White Elephant Sale October 29 — MusicFEST



Trash, yard waste, recycling, and heavy trash are picked up by the City of Houston.

Regular Household Trash

Pick-up is EVERY Thursday. Regular household trash goes into the black trash can.

Yard Waste

Pick-up is EVERY week either on Thursday or Saturday or any day the City decides to come by. Yard Waste MUST be placed in the correct City bio-degradable bags.



Recycling in Westbury

All of Westbury recycles on Schedule A. Recycling is every other week. Recycling goes into the green trash can.

August 2022

Thursday, August 11 Thursday, August 25

September 2022

Thursday, September 8 Thursday, September 22

Heavy Trash Schedule

All of Westbury is on the same schedule for Heavy Trash. Pick-up is on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Odd months are TREE WASTE ONLY and even months are JUNK WASTE months.

August 2022 JUNK WASTE Thursday, August 11

September 2022 TREE WASTE ONLY **Thursday, September 8**

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- Regular trash pickup is every Thursday.
- Recycling is every other Thursday.
- Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- Tard waste is picked up on Saturdays.
- Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- MO Plastic Bags in green recycling bins
- Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday
- Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- Yard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags with City logo
- Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers:
- SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr 10785 SW Frwy Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM;

Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.

- Environmental Service Center 11500 S. Post Oak Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- Refer to www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

Why Support the WCC?

Westbury is a unique neighborhood. While all 5,000 homes in our Westbury neighborhood have active deed restrictions, only 463 have mandatory assessments. This means the Westbury Civic Club heavily relies on voluntary financial contributions from residents.

Westbury has historically had strong voluntary support because residents understood the great benefits of the WCC and our programs. The past several years' contributions to the Westbury Civic Club and to the Westbury Area Patrol have been down. By working together, we can meet the challenges head on and keep our neighborhood the jewel that it is. We all want a safe, flood free neighborhood with great schools and nice neighbors.

The total amount for the **2022 Voluntary Dues is \$365**. That is well worth a dollar a day! The Westbury Civic Club dues are \$60 for the year. The WCC suggests a contribution of \$305 for the Westbury Area Patrol (a paid contract with Precinct 5 Constables).

Pay Your Dues Online www.westburycrier.com

Go to westburycrier.com then to the Dues and Assessments page.

The available payment options one the selection menu are:

- → WCC Dues \$60
- → WCC Constables \$305
- → WCC Dues + Constables \$365

P.O. Box 975182

Dallas, TX 75397-5182

→ Custom Amount — You can enter your own amount

Once you get to the payment page, you can opt to pay with your PayPal account, or pay directly by credit card.

Why are Westbury Dues Mailed to a

Dallas Address?

You are mailing you payments directly to our bank's processing center in Dallas. This allows your payments to be processed immediately.

You may also drop off the payment directly to the WCC Office or pay online at www.westburycrier.com

Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday Each Month at 7PM
Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft

→ Live streamed on Facebook, Westbury Houston

Next WCC Board Meeting WCC Board Meeting Wednesday, August 17, 7PM IN PERSON MEETING

Topics - Committee updates, Deed Restriction Revision, crime, etc.

Read the Westbury Crier ONLINE!

Did you know that you can read the *Westbury Crier* online? Our website, www.westburycrier.com has an archive of past Criers starting with March 2011 all the way to the current issue. We are working on getting all the past issues scanned and online. There is great Westbury history in the old Criers. If you sign up for announcements on the website, you will get an email every month with a link to the Crier.

The WCC tries to get the Crier to residents as close to the 1st of the month as possible. Sometimes this is hard to accomplish as there are printer issues, weather delays, and schedule problems with our delivery team. We apologize for any inconvenience. Subscribe to WCC announcements on our website, and you will receive an email with a link to the online Crier each month.

, ,				
Please send this form in with your payment	2022 Westbury Ci	vic Cluk	Dues	,
Name(s)				
Address				
Home Phone	Work	Cell		
E-mail				
Online payment:	Westbury Civic Club Dues		\$60	\$
www.westburycrier.com www.paypal.com to	Westbury Area Patrol		\$305	\$
email		Subtotal	\$365	\$
westburycc@sbcglobal.net Make sure to include your	Additional Contributions:			
address	Westbury Civic Club			\$
	Westbury Area Patrol			\$
Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc.			Total	\$
Mail to: Thank you for supporting the Westbury Civic				

Thank you for supporting the Westbury Civic Club and our important programs. We can't do it without you! To contact the WCC Office, call 713-723-5437 or

email westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

By filling out this form, you are giving the WCC permission to send you communications. We DO not sell your information or give it out to other entities.

ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1 & 2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments. These assessments may be adjusted annually by the most recently published annual percentage chage for the US Urban Wage Earners, US City Average, in accordance with the deed restrictions.

The 2022 Mandatory Assessments of \$253.90. Due Date is February 1, 2022.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE AN INVOICE, PLEASE EMAIL THE WCC OFFICE AT WEST-BURYCC@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Westbury Civic Club 2022 Budget To Date

General Income

	Approved Budget	To Date 6/15/2022
Mandatory Assessments	\$95,000	_
Voluntary WCC Dues	\$46,000	_
Westbury Area Patrol Voluntary (Restricted)	\$197,335	_
Total Dues & Assessments	\$338,335	\$192,385.48
Associate Sponsorship	\$3,650	\$0
Community Garage Sale	\$2,000	\$720
Crier Advertising Fees	\$36,000	\$12,500
Refinancing Fees	\$6,000	\$1,875
Transfer Fees	\$35,000	\$27,014
Resale Certificates	\$1,000	\$1,400
Interest Income	\$500	_
Total General Income	\$422,485	\$235,894.48
<u>Program Expenses</u>		
Crier Printing & Expenses	\$46,560	\$27,656
Community Garage Sale Expense	\$2,000	\$490
Programs and Hospitality	\$1,000	\$0
Water, Plants, Supplies, and Equipment	\$5,000	\$0
Harris County Constable Fee (3 Deputies)	\$265,475	\$110,835
Total Program Expenses	\$320,035	\$138,981
General Expenses	Ć400	ćo
Books, Subscriptions, Dues	\$100	\$0
Postage, Mailing Service	\$3,5000	\$40.35
Printing and Copying	\$2,500	\$3,224.38
Supplies	\$500	\$0
Training and Education	\$100	\$0
Bank and PayPal Fees	\$5,600	\$1,443.62
Computer and Software	\$9,000	\$2,138.66
Insurance	\$6,000	\$0
Payroll Expenses	\$50,000	\$22,439.50
Contract Services—Accounting/Legal	\$7,000	\$1,872.96
Facilities and Equipment (Rent, Utilities)	\$18,150	\$8,810.84
Total General Expenses	<u>\$102,450</u>	\$39,970.31
TOTAL: Program + General Expenses	\$422,485	\$235,894.48

Support the Constable Program Pay your 2022 Dues!

Dues form is on page 6.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TODAY!

The WCC projected 2022 total budget is \$422,485. The WCC board approved the budget in January 2022. We thank all those who have paid their dues and assessments. We have collected \$235,894.48 through June 15. We need to collect another \$187,000 in the next few months to cover the WAP program and other expenses through the end of the year. Due to ongoing computer and banking issues, we are unable to provide the exact breakdown between assessments and dues. We except to have this information soon.

Our biggest and arguably the most important expense is the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) security control contract with the Precinct 5 Constable office. WAP consists of three deputies, one of whom is a sergeant. We have coverage in the morning, afternoon and night shift. The WAP Patrol contract will be increasing 4% in cost starting in October 2022.

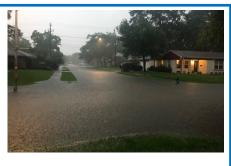
The General Expense category includes all of the items that go into operating the Civic Club. Operating an office and staffing, insurance, professional fees (financial reviews, legal expenses), doing projects and programs, and deed restriction enforcement are some of the expenses. The WCC office is only open limited hours, however, our office manager works at least 30 hours a week. We are looking at ways to increase the office hours while also getting important tasks done. Advertising in the monthly newsletter offsets most of the Crier expenses.

We know many of you are still struggling with the unexpected costs associated with the COVID pandemic. A special thank you to those who have paid extra knowing that others sometimes cannot contribute. Last year, one generous resident sent in \$5,000 for the WAP patrol and another a \$1,000 payment. If you haven't paid your dues this year, won't you send them in now. If you can't afford the full \$365; please send whatever you are able to. It's easy to go online and make a payment or use the convenient QR code to the left.

Crime is on the increase and having law enforcement able to respond quickly is so important. Consider how important is the safety is of you and your family. your and your family's safety? Please send in your dues in today!

Weather Wary in Westbury

Does rain make you nervous? Are you unsure on the weather forecasts? Does listening to the news



weather reports make you panic? You are not alone. Houston weather over the past decade has made us all very wary, if not scared, of storms.

Houston gets rain. The trick is to know where and how much. There are many good websites and apps available that can help guide you before rain events or during them. One good piece of advice is to look for warnings and alerts from the actual source, for example the National Hurricane Center. This is not a complete list but just one meant to help guide you and add to your storm preparations.

Harris County Flood Warning System www.harriscountyfws.org

This website is extremely helpful <u>during</u> a rain event. It shows real time bayou levels and rainfall amounts at gages that have been installed along the bayous. **Gage 445** is located in Westbury on the Willow Waterhole Bayou at the Landsdowne bridge. Gage 440 is located on Brays Bayou at S. Rice. A new tool just introduced is the ability to sign up for Flood Alerts by gage. Another tool available on the website is a Flood Inundation real time map that can help residents make critical decisions regarding life and property during events. If you are ever curious about the rainfall amounts and rate, you can also look up historical data.

National Hurricane Center www.nhc.noaa.gov

If there is a chance of a named storm or there is a current named storm, the National Hurricane Center is your go-to source. During an active named storm, there will be multiple updates issued along with many different maps. These include the wind probability, the storm track cone, storm surge, tides, and many more.

Hype-free Weather Forecast www.spacecityweather.com

This website is dedicated to covering Houston weather news and forecasting with accuracy and without hype. Space City Weather was founded in October 2015. This website isn't about making money or getting "hits", it is truly about providing residents and business owners a quality forecast to make informed decisions. Eric Berger and Matt Lanza provide the best forecast for Houston weather. You can also follow them on Facebook.

Be Alert. Be Weather Smart.

Sign Up for Power Outage Alerts

A helpful alert service about Centerpoint power outages is Power Alert Service (PAS) which can notify you, friends and family of a power outage, its restoration progress, and when the electricity comes back on.

https://www.centerpointenergy.com

Sign up for Flood Gage Warning Alerts

The regional Flood Warning System measures rainfall and monitors water levels in bayous, creeks, and rivers on a real-time basis to inform area residents of potential flooding conditions. This system relies on a network of 250 gage stations that have been strategically placed throughout a Harris and surrounding counties. Westbury has one of these gages located on the Willow Waterhole Bayou (#445). This information is available at www.harriscountyfws.org. You can now sign up for alerts on a specific gages near your home or work. You can receive default rainfall and water level alerts or create custom water alerts.

The Willow Waterhole Bayou at Landsdowne rises quickly and it's imperative for surrounding homeowners to know what is happening. It is important to remember that this gage will likely stay at a certain level (approximately 51-52ft) when flood waters are going over the weirs downstream at the Willow

Waterhole detention basins.



Willow Waterhole Bayou (WWB) Gages

#445 – WWB at Landsdowne (*Westbury*)

#435 – WWB at Willowbend

Brays Bayou (BB) Gages

#440 – BB at Rice Ave. #460 – BB at S. Gessner #465 – BB at Beltway 8

Westbury Flood Gage Explained

Westbury has a flood gage located on the Willow Waterhole Bayou at Landsdowne (gage 445). The gage can be accessed here, https://www.harriscountyfws.org/GageDetail/Index/445.

Once the Willow Waterhole Bayou reaches a certain level, the water will overflow the weirs into the basins at the Willow Waterhole complex. The Westbury flood gage (which is upstream of the basins) will read steady at this point, typically around 51.2-51.5ft. It is also at this same level, that the flood control system will show that flooding is possible in Westbury and the news will start reporting it as such. While this is technically true and flooding can happen anywhere, it is important to remember that we have the basins downstream. Watch the gage levels to really know. If the gage holds steady, it is likely water is flowing into the basins not homes. If the gage were to start rising again, flooding would be very likely in Westbury homes. The unknown factor is how full the basins are or will get once it starts raining. There is no gage or camera at the basins.

The gage in Westbury is set to only update when there is a change in water level. If we are in the middle of a rain event and the gage stops updating, while at a level of 51.2-51.5ft, it is likely the water is overflowing the weirs downstream.

Sign Up for Alerts from The City

Timely information during emergencies is important. AlertHouston delivers critical information to Houston residents regarding current



conditions, expected impacts, and protective actions to keep themselves and their loved ones safe. Messages are issued for citywide and neighborhood level emergencies.

www.houstonemergency.org/alerts/

Hurricane Preparation Tips

No one likes to hear that there is a possible direct hit of a major hurricane coming, but it is the reality of living so close to the coast. Knowing what to do and having a plan is extremely helpful. There is a chance every year that our storm will come, we just hope not. If a major hurricane is predicted to hit Houston, you need to prepare for the wind and rain during the storm itself and for the aftermath of no power for 2-3 weeks.

Should I stay or should I go now? The first decision ultimately is when to stay and at what point, if ever, do you leave. A longtime hurricane saying is "run from the surge, hide from the wind". If you are medically dependent on electricity and do not have a generator, you need to have a plan for a place to stay during and after the storm. Most residents can stay in their Westbury homes during a major hurricane. You hunker down and prepare for the wind (discussed to the right). Houston residents do not need to be on the roadways as those will be needed for coastal evacuations. The question is: do you stay in your home with no power after the storm, or do you leave town at that point? This decision will help with how you plan for buying food, water, gas, charcoal, etc. Some needs are for the storm itself and others are for the aftermath of no electricity for weeks.

The two lists on this page were created by Westbury residents and are meant to be a helpful guide. There are official hurricane prep lists available on all the major news channels websites, which are also helpful tools to help plan. Be prepared and be safe.



Long-term Hurricane Preparation Tips

- → Keep your trees trimmed. Wind is the biggest threat to Westbury in a major hurricane. Keeping your branches off your home, garage, fences, and power line is important.
- → Buy a portable gas generator. It is easy to get a generator when there isn't a storm aimed straight at us. They quickly become hot items. Plan ahead.
- → Measure your windows and have plywood stored in the garage to place over your windows when needed. Some new windows are hurricane strength but the original Westbury home windows are not.
- → Make a hurricane prep box containing flashlights, batteries, battery operated radio, candle, lighters, matches, etc., so it's already on hand.
- → Save a stash of empty water bottles to fill up for your freezer to make ice or cold water.
- → Copy important documents, place in sealable plastic bag, ready to take with you quickly.



Immediate Hurricane Preparation Tips

(This would ideally be done ove	r several days	leading up t	o landfall)
---------------------------------	----------------	--------------	-------------

- ☐ Fill all vehicles with gas.
- ☐ Buy gas for your generator if you have one. Fill up any extra tanks.
- ☐ Get extra cash.
- ☐ Make sure to have at least 2 weeks worth of all medicines. Get prescriptions filled if needed.
- ☐ Secure all items outside that can blow in the wind. Move patio furniture inside garage. Move potted plants to secure location. Secure or place your grills inside.
- ☐ Don't forget the kids items. Take off swings from swing set. Flip, disassemble, secure trampolines as they can fly. Lay basketball goals down on sides. Move all toys and bikes inside.
- ☐ Move your trash cans to your garage or secure them very well to a tree or post. Duct tape the lids shut.
- ☐ For major storms, put plywood over your windows. It is not recommended to tape your windows, as this can cause more dangerous shards of glass than if it were to break naturally.
- ☐ Freeze bottles of water to make ice that will extend life of your freezer or refrigerator. Make as many as possible as they can be used in an ice chest as well.
- ☐ Have flashlights and batteries. Buy extra batteries if needed. Having a battery operated lantern for main room or head flashlights for each person are handy. Kids might enjoy glow sticks.
- ☐ Have candles or oil lamps ready
- ☐ Get matches or lighters for candles, grill, or your gas stove.
- ☐ Have a battery operated radio so you can listen to alerts. Some new models have charging ports and special NOAA channel.
- ☐ Buy at least one week's worth of non-perishable foods. Suggested items include peanut butter crackers, bread, muffins, fruit with longer shelf life such as apples and oranges, snack bars, granola, beef jerky, trail mixes, applesauce, fruit cups and canned goods.
- ☐ Ensure you have enough pet food and supplies such as kitty litter for at least 2 weeks.
- ☐ Buy charcoal or propane for your grill so you can cook outside if power goes out.
- ☐ Get extra water. (And wine!)
- ☐ Charge all devices and keep fully charged until power goes out. You can sit in your car later for some AC and charge your phone.
- ☐ Do all laundry. Wash sheets. Start with clean slate to minimize problems with heat and sweat.
- Wash all dishes.
- ☐ Fill bathtub or large buckets with water. If there is no City water available, you can use the stored water in your toilet to flush.
- ☐ Have a secure place in your house already planned and ready with a blanket and pillow and radio/phone. Ideally away from any windows. In many Westbury homes, that is likely your hallway, even if it has no doors, you can shut the individual bedroom doors that have windows so hallway is more secure.
- ☐ If you have kids, have them help with preparations and explain why you are preparing. It helps with anxiety to have a plan and be a part of it. Have them grab a book and a lovey if they have one.
- ☐ Clean storm drains and gutters in front of your home.

Westbury Yard of the Month June 2022 Winners

Westbury 1

5047 Redstart DiazGranados Family

Westbury 2

5262 Stillbrooke Westbury Resident

Westbury 3

11618 Rampart Chris and Merdeth McNulty

Westbury 4

5730 Ettrick Jacques Davidson

Westbury 5

11015 Atwell Cheryl and David Gellentine

Westbury South

12427 Atwell Jorge Campos

Parkwest 2

5762 Stillbrooke Guadalupe Gonzalez

Parkwest 3

5906 Lattimer Westbury Resident

The Westbury Yard of the Month program runs from March through September. We do a Halloween Yard of the Month in October and a special holiday awards in December. If you have a yard of the month nomination, please email westburycc@sbcglobal.net











Welcome Erica Cantu Tran

New Principal at Anderson Elementary

Erica Cantu Tran is the new principal for Anderson Elementary. She began her education career 20 years ago as a 4th grade ESL teacher for HISD at J.C. Mitchell Elementary. Tran went on to work in Goose Creek CISD as a 3rd grade teacher, reading specialist, assistant principal and principal. In 2018, she returned to HISD as the Principal of Bonham Elementary where she has restructured the school and built a community of trust and academic excellence. In 2021, she was named the new principal of Patrick Henry MS. Tran earned a bachelor's degree in Behavioral Science from the University of Houston-Clear Lake and master's de-



gree in Education from Lamar University.

Susan Shafer, former librarian at Parker ES and board member of the WAIC, has been a member of the Anderson Shared Decision Making Committee (SDMC) and participated in the selection of the new principal. She had this to say: "I am eager to see her continue to expand the vision and move forward for our neighborhood children."

Thank you Principal Everett

Dr. Deshonta Everett came to Anderson Elementary in 2019 when the school was struggling, rated a "D" by the TEA. When he arrived at Anderson he partnered with his staff and set a big goal of becoming an A campus. He had a plan and, thanks to the hard work of the teachers and staff, preliminary data from TEA shows that his plan was successful. Dr. Everett said "I am so appreciative of the hard work of our teachers and staff, the support of our parents and the support of the community that played a part in the success of Anderson rising above our 2019 D rating."

He will be leaving Anderson and moving to nearby Welch Middle School. He had this to say, "I am so proud of the Anderson panthers and will greatly miss the Anderson community."

CONCERNED WITH YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT?



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NEW Spark Park Coming to Anderson Elementary

We are pleased to announce a new SPARK (Sports, Playful Activity, And Recreation For Kids) Park is coming to Anderson Elementary. The SPARK School Park Program works with schools and neighborhoods to develop community parks on public school grounds. The existing SPARK park, dedicated in 1998, is in serious need of replacement.

SPARK Parks are available for public use after the school day has ended and on weekends and holidays. This will be a much needed amenity and improvement for the neighborhood as the Houston Parks Dept. has still not moved forward with plans for a playground in Hager Park. There are just two old swing sets dating back to possibly the 1960s!

As expected, some SPARK park funds need to be raised. Funds will come from foundations, HISD, and others. As a community, we are asked to raise \$5,000.

Won't you join us in helping bring this awesome playground to life for not only Anderson's students, but for the whole Westbury community?

How to make your tax deductible donations?

- 1. Mail a check payable to the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation and mail it to: 5322 West Bellfort, Suite 100, Houston TX 77035
- 2. Visit the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) website at: https://www.westbury37waic.org/



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SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022

8.6.2022

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www.blackhealthmatters.com

Westbury Area Improvement Corporation Greenspace Improvements

West Bellfort and Chimney Rock were looking pretty shabby with dead oleanders along both streets. The freeze last year damaged many of the oleanders along Chimney Rock and West Bellfort. The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) allocated money from the greenspace fund to clean up the dead oleanders. Thanks to a generous donation from a Westbury resident, we were able to do both streets. In the fall, the plan is to plant trees and shrubs along the Chimney Rock ditch. WAIC is a 501C3 non-profit and donations are tax deductible. Our website has an easy link to donate to several different programs: Greenspace and Trails; the new Anderson SPARK Park and the Westbury Community Garden.





Westbury Trail News

Many thanks to the people who responded to Trail Maintenance volunteer, Al Potvin, for help with his many miles of mowing. New Westbury trail signs are being added where the older ones needed replacement. Mr. Potvin keeps an eye on all the bayous that he mows along and reports to Harris County Flood control when he sees anything that needs to be removed. Over the last 2 years, he has made 21 reports to HCFCD. Thanks, Al. for keeping our waterways clear and our residents a little safer.

Trees along Property Lines

The WCC office gets many calls about tree disputes between neighbors. If you have a tree that grows into your neighbor's yard or over their house; it is well within their right to prune it away from their property. It would be advisable to speak to your neighbor beforehand as they may want to trim it themselves. They might not even realize it has encroached onto your property.

Dangerous Trees

Do you have a dangerous tree on your property? Please have it removed before it damages your property or someone else's. We recommend that if your neighbor has a tree that you feel could endanger your property to put them on written notice if they are unwilling to take care of the problem. Please be a good neighbor!

Street Trees

All the trees located on City Easements are protected. Did you know all the trees located in front of your sidewalk belong to the City of Houston? Most Westbury property lines begin behind the sidewalk. If you witness the removal of a city tree from a street easement, please call 832-395-7200 immediately to report it so the City can minimize tree loss. This phone line is monitored 24 hours a day.

Tree Stump Grinding

Has the City removed a tree from the right of way in between the sidewalk and street in front of your home? Call 311 to request tree stump grinding

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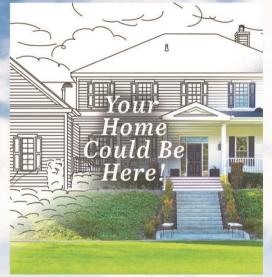
(713) 728-2300











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Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood

June 20—July 22, 2022 Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

KEY

		<u>.</u> .				
Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W	Theft from
5800	Alvarado	Theft from Motor Vehicle	7/18	11pm	Westbury South	Motor Vehicle
5900	Beaudry	Simple Assault	7/7	6pm	Parkwest 3	Auto Theft
5600	Belrose	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	7/1	11pm	Westbury 3	
5700	Cartagena	Simple Assault	6/20	7pm	Westbury 3	Theft
11900	Dunlap	Theft from Motor Vehicle	6/20	12am	Parkwest 3	
10900	Endicott	Theft from Motor Vehicle	6/29	9am	Westbury 1	Burglary
5800	Ettrick	Theft—Other	6/20	6pm	Westbury 4	
5900	Ettrick	Simple Assault	7/4	11am	Westbury 4	Aggravated
12200	Hillcroft	Simple Assault	7/19	3pm	Westbury 4	Assault
5600	Hummingbird	Theft—Other	7/16	4pm	Westbury 5	Simple Assault
12300	Landsdowne	Aggravated Assault	7/16	2am	Westbury South	Property
5600	Ludington	Auto Theft	7/7	6pm	Westbury 4	Damage
5600	Ludington	Aggravated Assault	7/9	1pm	Westbury 4	
5600	McKnight	Destruction, Damage, Vandalism	6/24	4pm	Westbury 3	
5000	Redstart	Simple Assault	7/7	6pm	Westbury 1	
5500	Redstart	Theft from Motor Vehicle	7/16	9am	Parkwest 2	
5400	Sanford	Theft—Other	7/22	2pm	Westbury 3	
5800	Southminster	Theft from Motor Vehicle	7/6	6pm	Westbury South	
5800	Spellman	Theft—other	6/21	9am	Parkwest 2	
5800	Spellman	Theft from Motor Vehicle	6/22	2pm	Parkwest 2	1
5800	Willowbend	Theft from Motor Vehicle	6/22	6am	Parkwest 2	

The crimes listed took place between June 20 and July 22, 2022. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key to the right.

Crime by the Numbers

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./ TH	Comm./ Business	Park/ Public
Aggravated Assault	2	10	2	1
Theft from Motor Vehicle	7	7	2	0
Burglary	0	3	4	0
Robbery	0	1	3	1
Simple Assault	5	17	6	0
Shoplifting	0	0	0	0
Drugs, Narcotics	0	0	0	2
Vandalism, Damage	1	6	1	1
Auto Theft	1	3	1	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	1	0	0	1
Theft—Other	4	3	1	1
DUI	0	0	0	6
Disorderly Conduct	0	1	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	2	0	0
Murder	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	21	53	21	13

Pct. 5 Constable Dispatch Westbury Area Patrol 281-463-6666 SW HPD Station 832-394-0400 HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

VACATION WATCH

Are you going on a summer vacation? If you pay your Westbury Area Patrol dues, make sure you request a vacation watch by the Constables.

Vacation Watch is a great service that is included in our contract. A deputy will check out your property at least once a day to make sure it is secured and nothing suspicious is going on.



You can register for a vacation watch online at https://constablepct5.com or call 281-463-6666





We Want to Hear From YOU!

Report Deed Restriction Violations

Email westburydr@gmail.com

House Plan Review New Homes, Solar Panels, additions, etc.

Email westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Questions or Comments about deed restriction revision

Email westburyhtxdr@gmail.com

Contact the WCC Office

westburycc@sbcglobal.net 713-723-5437

Message Westbury Houston Facebook page

Contact the WCC President

wccpresident@westburycrier.com

Follow the Westbury Houston Facebook page for the most up to date information.

www.westburycrier.com

Community News

JoAnn Fabrics in Meyerland Opens July 29

The new JoAnn's Fabrics store located in Meyerland Plaza is having it's grand opening on July 29. Go check it out!



High School Students Invited to Apply for the 2022-23 Mayor's Youth Council

Mayor Sylvester Turner and the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) invite Houston high school students in grades 9-12 to apply for the 2022-23 Mayor's Youth Council (MYC). The term of office runs October 2022 to May 2023.

Modeled after the elected City Council, the MYC provides youth the opportunity to learn about city government, share issues of concern with city officials, and gain civic leadership skills through community service activities.

The application deadline is August 12, 2022. Applicants must be residents of Houston. To apply, go to www.bit.ly/MYC2223.

The MYC is administered by DON's Office of Neighborhood Engagement. For more information, go to https://www.houstontx.gov/myc/index.html or call 832-393-1061.

Back to SchoolSchool Starts August 22

The first day of school for Houston ISD students will be on Monday, August 22. Many local private schools start a week or two earlier.

Please pay attention to children walking to school and surrounding traffic. Be patient and kind.

Slow down for school zones and stop for school buses. Please remember cell phone usage in school zone is prohibited.



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What's in a Name?

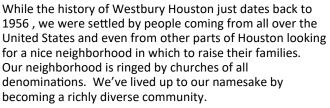
Have you ever wondered how Westbury got it's name? If you've been around a while you've probably heard about Ira Berne the developer who built Westbury. Ira was from Westbury, New York. He wanted to create a very special

WESTBURY

TWIN TOWN
SOISY-SUR-SEINE

neighborhood for this fast growing city and he named it for his hometown. In this master planned community, he carved out a large parcel of land (24 acres) to create a European style shopping village reminiscent of those squares he loved in Italy. Westbury Square was amazing in it's heyday.

But how did Westbury, New York get it's name? Westbury, NY is a village in Nassau County on Long Island. In 1675, Henry Willis, an English Quaker, named the area he settled in after his hometown in England: Westbury, Wiltshire. Many Quakers who were seeking religious freedom began to settle in the area. Quakers freed their slaves in 1775 and many freed men built their own homesteads. After the American Revolution, German mercenaries stayed behind and became the third group of settlers. The railroad came in 1840 and brought more settlers. Westbury was also a stop on the Underground Railroad. Today over 14,000 people live in the village and it is rich with ethnic and racial diversity and according to the villageofwestbury.org website is "truly a community for all people".



And what about Westbury, Wiltshire, UK? Westbury is a town in southwest England on the edge of Salisbury Plain (just 20 miles from Stonehenge) dating back to before 1086. An interesting landmark near Westbury is the Westbury White Horse. Originally carved in the chalk just below an Iron age hill fort is the oldest of several white horses carved in Wiltshire (the county). 180 feet tall and 170 feet wide, it was restored in 1772. Due to maintenance issues, it was concreted over and painted white in 1957. Incidentally, Sheila Howieson, the founder of Mentors of Hope, that led the mentoring program at Westbury High School, was visiting Westbury UK this summer and sent this picture of the Westbury White Horse.

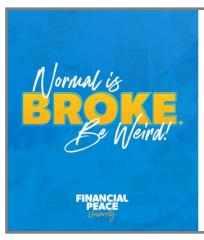






There will be no WOW event in August.

Look for the WOW events to continue in September.
It is a great volunteer event for the entire family. We hope to see you in September.





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WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

12581 Dunlap (77035) is off Hillcroft between W. Airport and South Main. Heading south on Hillcroft, turn right onto Greencraig, follow it around the bend where it turns into Dunlap. The large blue roof on the WCG Pavilion is readily visible. Street parking.





On July 9, the Westbury Community Garden hosted a Member Social and Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast in the Garden. A delicious breakfast was made possible by donations from HEB Grocery, Marcia Hartman, Panera Bread and West Universality Café. A big thank you to each of them. The Magical Sunflower Maze at Westbury Community Garden was open and there were sunflowers and seed heads for cutting.

Individual volunteers, groups, and dedicated WCG members were acknowledged and thanked for their work at the Westbury Community Garden over the last year and a half. We always say, "Many hands make light work." It is no exaggeration that these projects would not have been possible

without all of the volunteers:

Thanks to all who worked on the Butterfly Garden, Herb Garden, Orchard restoration, Sunflower Maze, Shade structure repair, the installation of park benches, 2 new raised beds and the newly mulched walkways. Students from schools including Bellaire's National Honor Society, Kinkaid, and YES Prep to alumni groups from Ohio University and Texas Women's

University. Scouts like Case B and Teach for America joined all our wonderful garden leaders and mentors to make the Westbury Community Garden such a special place. Thank you to Debbie Gordon for all her CONTACT work in making this a special event.

This quote from The Sentence by Louise Erdrich seems to capture the essence of the WCG.

"It was more than a place, it was a nexus, a mission, a work of art, a calling, a sacred craziness, a slice of eccentricity, a collection of good people who shifted and arranged but cared deeply about the same thing."



Westbury Community Garden Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast



Like "Westbury Community Garden Houston" on Facebook

www.westburycommunitygarden.org/

Wild in Westbury

Westbury resident Stacey Keller sent in photos of a Coopers Hawk with two baby hawks at a birdbath in her yard. Do you also enjoy seeing the birds and other wildlife that is abundant here in Westbury? Share your photos with us by emailing westburycc@sbcglobal.net.



Audubon Society Monthly Bird Survey @ the Willow Waterhole

What: Audubon Society Bird Survey

When: Saturday, August 20, 7-9AM

Where: Meet at the Gathering Place 5310 S. Willow

For more information, visit the Houston Audubon website, https://houstonaudubon.org/

Save the Date-Fall MusicFEST October 29, 11AM-7PM

The MusicFEST is back! The Fall MusicFEST will be held on October 29 from 11AM—7PM. This is the first year to hold the MusicFEST twice in a year. This great event is fun for the whole family. Plan to come for part of the day or stay all day and enjoy all that the Willow Waterhole has to offer. There will be Halloween activities such as a Haunted House Maze, costume contests, Trunk or Treat and more! We will have more information in the September and October Criers. We hope to see you there!



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Willow Waterhole

More than Just Flood Control TRAILS * BIRDS * WILDFLOWERS

Visit the Willow Waterhole TODAY! The main Westbury Lake trails and gazebo are easily accessible via the new parking lot at the end of Dryad. Additional parking is available on the street off Ricecrest.



Photo—Mark Mulligan, Houston Chronicle

New Sculpture in Honor of Ann Lee

On July 16, a host of residents gathered at the Willow Waterhole to honor Ann Lee. She is a founding member and first President of the Brays Bayou Association (BBA). To honor her service, the



Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy (WWGC) added a new addition to the Naturescape garden. Sculptor James Philips carved an ordinary trunk of wood into an extraordinary owl.

The BBA was established in 1984 by a group of residents from Southwest Houston, with a goal of reducing flooding in the Brays Bayou Watershed. Their efforts led to \$500M Project Brays led by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers that has resulted in many improvements completed by the Harris County Flood Control District over twenty-five years. The \$75 million Willow Waterhole Stormwater Detention Facility was among the improvements. Project Brays will be completed in 2022 once the bridge work is complete. Thirty-eight years after the BBA was founded, the WWGC was thrilled to honor Ann Lee for her dedicated service to our community.

Grass Fire at Westbury Lake

Teenagers, setting off fireworks on July 4th, caused a grass fire at the Willow Waterhole. Luckily the fire was put out by the Houston Fire Department before the picnic area and Naturescape area were damaged.



Please keep in mind that, Houston and Harris County are experiencing drought conditions and it is dangerous for open flames to be near flammable materials. Also, it is against City of Houston ordinance to set off fireworks within the city limits. Willow Waterhole is an amazing asset for our community, so let's treat this jewel with the respect it merits.

Aerial Views of Westbury Lake

Below are two photos of "Westbury Lake" at the Willow Waterhole. This detention lake is behind Westbury High School and accessible from Dryad or Gasmer. There are multiple trails, gazebo, and naturscape. The Willow Waterhole Conservancy shared these recent photos taken by Lance Childers, with HoustonFirst Corporation.

HoustonFirst Corporation is a government funded organization supported by hotel occupancy taxes. Their mission is "to enhance the quality of life, advance economic prosperity and promote the Houston region". They are leading the effort to promote Houston as one of the great cities of the world. They recently dispatched their photographer Lance Childers to add the Willow Waterhole to their portfolio of sites to visit. This is yet another sign that the park is considered one of the City's jewels.





SAVE THE DATE for the WCC Annual Meeting

Wednesday, September 21



→ 6PM—Meet and Greet



→ 7PM—Meeting

Westbury Baptist Church, Game Room, 10425 Hillcroft



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