

Volume 42 Issue 7

Garden Oaks Gazette

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

The Garden Oaks 4th of July Parade is On!

The Garden Oaks Civic Club is looking forward to continuing our annual 4th of July Bike Parade. We are committed to executing this beloved tradition while also keeping our residents safe and healthy. The parade will take place on Saturday, July 4th 9 am – 10 am. To keep in line with social distancing, there will not be a formal registration nor contest this year. For those who want to

attend, please decorate your bikes, strollers, and/or yourself and join us for a stroll to celebrate the 4th as a community.

You can join anywhere on the parade route that you feel comfortable, and go as far as you like. The Constables will help direct traffic along the



route from 9 am – 10 am so that those that want to participate can do so safely. We ask that residents refrain from driving on W 41st St and W 42nd St between Alba and Sue Barnett during the parade times. Spectators are welcome to wave from their front porches. Masks are strongly encouraged as well. Thank you to Matthew Bell of Gobe Team Home Loan, and his wife, Pamela, for coordinating this event.

Garden Oaks 4th of July Parade Routes

Large Loop

Start: 900 block of Sue Barnett, across from the Spark Park at GOMM.

North on Sue Barnett to 42nd West on 42nd St. towards Alba South on Alba to 41st East on 41st to Sue Barnett

Small Loop (around Gazebo Park)

Start: 900 block of Sue Barnett North on Sue Barnett East on 42nd (south side of Gazebo Park) West on 42nd (north side of Gazebo Park, towards Lamonte) South on Sue Barnett

Removal of the Race Restriction Clauses in the Garden Oaks Deed Restrictions

Like many neighborhoods established before 1968, Garden Oaks' original deed restrictions contained a "Racial Restriction" clause that rightly became unenforceable due to discrimination being declared unconstitutional, thanks to the passage of the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968. At the time, neighborhood property owners' associations were not required to remove the wording, but some chose to mark on the documents that these clauses were "unenforceable" or to strike through the clauses to show the "removal". In the 52 years since this clause was made illegal, these

marked-up deed restrictions continue to be given to new home-owners during their closings, and some even require a signature acknowledgment, forcing all who are signing to look at that stain on our nation's history, and specifically, our neighborhood.

In Garden Oaks, removing* these clauses from the deed restrictions has long been recognized as important and previous attempts to do this have been made. However,

Constable Statistics May 2020

Data are provided monthly for the two contracts with the Harris County Precinct One Constable deputies who patrol Garden Oaks. The number of responses is shown for each category.

Our deputies are following CDC guidelines and social distancing on the street as well as in the office. The deputies are equipped with PPE so you may see them wearing masks. They need to avoid exposure and then a forced 14-day quarantine. Please help keep our deputies safe.

Alarm – 3 Animal Humane – 1 Burglary Motor Vehicle - 2 Check Park/School/Business/Church - 32 Contract Check – 183 Discharge Firearms – 1 Disturbance Loud Noise - 1 Fraudulent Use ID – 1 In Progress Life in Danger - 1 Information Call - 1 Meet the Citizen – 31 Meet the Officer - 1 Property Found Lost - 2 Special Assignment – 1 Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 9 Theft Other – 1 Theft Residence – 1 Traffic Hazard - 1 Traffic Stops – 4 Vacation Watch - 5 Vehicle Speeding – 1 Welfare Check - 1

Civic Club Officers

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|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|
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The Garden Oaks *Gazette* is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published monthly. The submission deadline to the editor is 11:59 PM of the 15th of each month for publication the next month unless otherwise noted.

Publication of any article or letter does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

Constable Patrol Program

Terry Jeanes

Garden Oaks Civic Club (GOCC) has served its required 30-day notice to Harris County Precinct One for adjustment to our contract, reducing patrols from two deputies to one.

"The Garden Oaks Civic Club will reduce the number of Constable patrols to one (1) deputy patrol, at the end of the period that is currently paid. This is no reflection on the quality of service of the deputies to our neighborhood, but solely due to declining contributions to support the program." – notice delivered from the Garden Oaks Civic Club (President) to Harris County Precinct One.

For two years and five months, GOCC has been able to maintain two deputies, after two deputies were lost when GOMO was no longer able to provide support to the constable program. However, GOCC has been spending down reserves on the program for some time, and contributions have not covered the cost of two deputies. Continuing with a second deputy is not feasible for GOCC and would compromise the program as a whole. GOCC board members decided that it is best to extend the program for as long as possible with one deputy. The motion and initial vote to add the second deputy, taken at the December 2016 general meeting, did not require a vote at a general meeting to reduce the contract back to one deputy.

GOCC will maintain its original one contract deputy patrol as long as community voluntary payment support continues. Each deputy maintains a dedicated 40 hour-a-week area patrol. If contributions increase significantly to make it financially sound, the board is ready and willing to add back additional deputies.

Thank you to those who have supported and continue to support the Constable Patrol effort, which benefits all of us as a neighborhood. Thanks to our 315 current supporters as of June 15th, listed at gardenoaks.org.

Congratulations to Marisa Zindler and Jason Feit as winners of the June 1st drawing for the \$100 El Tiempo/Laurenzo's/Tony Mandola gift certificate! Thank you again to Missy Alwais for the donation of multiple certificates used this last year.

LET'S GET THE RED TO RISE!!! Just like the deputies in our community, each of you can make a difference. Pay your supporter dues now if you haven't already. A \$250 annual donation includes your own GO Constable Supporter yard sign.

Become a Constable Program Supporter: gardenoaks.org

Constable Dispatch: 713-755-7628

Sign up for Precinct One Crime Alerts: http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/ crime-alerts/

Vacation Watch: http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/

Questions? Please contact constable@gardenoaks.org.





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| Precinct One Constable | | | |
| Dispatch | 713-755-7628 | | |
| All Other City Services 311 | | | |
| | | | |

Anti-Racist Awareness and Action

Lindsey Pollock, Ed.D., Principal, Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet

The current climate of unrest within our city and country due to the tragic and unnecessary loss of black lives has given us a wake-up call to the persistent issue of racism. A quote by Dr. Angela Y. Davis has served as my mantra (over the past few days): "I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept." At Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet, anti-racist, anti-bias awareness and action have been a focus of our faculty and PTO over the years. We know that we must continue to be mindful of the importance of these efforts and accelerate our work at school and in our community. Here are a few ideas of action that we will take collectively:

Read, listen and learn from those who are in the work. John Nimmo, one of the authors of the book Leading Anti-Bias Early Childhood Programs: A Guide for Change, offered these words of wisdom: "Now is **not** the time to be silent.

"Now is the time to listen carefully to the meaning children are giving to the events around them. Young children are seeing and hearing the justifiable anger of people across this nation. Yes, limit children's exposure to media that is not designed for them, but accept that they have the right and capacity to understand the reality of racism in our country.

"Now is the time to respond to their questions and observations with authenticity. Find the language and words that are developmentally meaningful for your children, but don't shy away from using words that children are seeking to understand like protest, police brutality, and White supremacy.

"While we need to reassure children about their world, it is okay to express that you don't know everything and that you want to learn more. Reflect visibly on your own social identities and values and their relationship to race and racism. As a White parent and teacher, I accept responsibility to not only be aware of who I am, but to also model the everyday and concrete ways I can confront my privilege and be an ally for social justice.

"We can reassure our children that good people can feel angry and frustrated, while also emphasizing values of care, kindness and community. I need to be careful not to confuse 'safety' with the White privilege to not talk about racism. Attend to your child's protection from the trauma that is racism."

Author Nadia Jaboneta writes in You Can't Celebrate That: Navigating the Deep Waters of Social Justice Teaching, "I see firsthand how racism infuses all of our lives, White people and people of color, children and adults...I've begun to listen for opportunities to take up the conversation about race and religion

with the children as a way to plant the seeds for a more just society."

Personal Pause. Take time to breathe deeply and reflect on personal biases and experiences. Name your feelings and practice your strategies to be an ally. Discuss them with family and friends. Don't try to do everything at once. Give yourself grace to start the work and then implement at home with your family. This is big, important work that will require our collect support and efforts. Here are two great websites for parents:

Embrace Race https://www.embracerace.org/resources

Equity Through a Child's Eyes https://360.coradvantage.com/equity

Feedback. Please contribute your voice to the discussion around our school commitment to anti-racism and anti-bias. What can we do to improve our school to ensure that every child, every family, feels welcome, safe, and valued here at Garden Oaks? We are currently conducting a survey of teachers and parents to gather information around our current school efforts and what we can do to improve. I encourage you to so the same at your workplace to encourage dialogue about systemic oppression and what can be done to dismantle these structures.

Committee work. At GOMM, we will review survey results, and actualize a plan of improvement moving forward. The results will be published on our school website and will drive our efforts throughout the campus.

If you'd like to help, email me at lpollock@houstonisd.org.

Peace.

Citizen Patrol Program

Mark Saranie

Happy 4th of July to all. I hope that your celebrations are safe and enjoyable despite COVID-19. Fortunately there's not much to report. Understandably, there's still no updates about Citizen Patrol certification classes from HPD. As I find out, that information will be shared.

Eligibility: you must be at least 18 years old, live in Garden Oaks, and pass a background check. That's it.

Crime reports for May 2020

5/7/2020, 12 pm, 400 block W. 34th – Theft of vehicle parts/accessories.

5/16/2020, 8 pm, 700 block W. 38th - Theft of vehicle parts/accessories.

Reported patrol hours for May – 16



Please support our advertisers who support our neighborhood. Tell them you saw their ad in the *Gazette*!

Racial Restrictions—Continued from Page 1

we are bound by Texas statutes that govern the alteration of deed restrictions, even when the reason is based on something deemed "unconstitutional," and the process can be prohibitive due to the cost and physical effort involved. The statutes require notarized documents, in some cases up to 75% of homeowners' signatures of approval, legal counsel, and fees for these services. For many neighborhoods, due to the energy and expenses involved, the removal of the race restriction sections was often included with other comprehensive proposals, but when more controversial proposals were not passed, the racist clauses remained unchanged, too. This happened in Garden Oaks as well. To make it more complicated, the process can require a functioning property owners' association, which we currently don't have, and which Section Four of Garden Oaks does not have at all.

To see this reminder of our nation's racist history every time someone purchases a property here is unacceptable. It is hurtful and offensive. And make no mistake, allowing the clauses to be included in our current deed restrictions and requiring homeowners to sign them is beyond a micro-aggression. We do not need to keep this crossed-out restriction to remember our nation's history or to celebrate how far we have come, in the same way we do not leave "segregation" signs on water fountains, schools, or building entrances.

A group of Garden Oaks residents is currently working to remove the racial restriction from our deed restrictions. Yes, it is complicated. Yes, it is expensive. But, yes, it is way past time. Due to the current bankruptcy of our neighborhood property association and the lack of a functioning association for all sections of Garden Oaks, it is proving to be extremely difficult. However, in researching what would be needed to do this, it became increasingly clear that the state statutes are what is most limiting a neighborhood's ability to make these types of changes. Not only do many neighborhoods not have an HOA, the expectation that the neighborhoods would have access to legal counsel and the funds needed to pursue this type of alteration make it unreasonable for many. When we contacted State Representative Anna Eastman about this, she stated that she is concerned about this issue and is working to learn more to see how she can help to create change at the state level in the next legislative session. "I am ready to get to work on this issue. I can see no reason why we wouldn't want to simplify the process to fully remove unconstitutional, racist language from deed restrictions or official documents. This ugly part of our history does not belong in living documents to only provide a painful reminder of our past," Eastman said. She has reached out to Jarvis Johnson, with whom state representation of Garden Oaks is split. State Senator John Whitmire is also looking at this issue.

We are encouraged that many state representatives have recently become vocal about being eager to work towards passing a bill that would make removing any unconstitutional clauses from deed restrictions more accessible for neighborhoods. Ultimately, the bill that is proposed needs to allow a simple process for restatement of the deed restrictions without the offensive clauses, and refiling in the county real property records. It will also need to make this possible without the existence of an HOA, and any fees associated with the filing should be waived.

The Texas legislature will not be back in session until January 2021, but we will continue to work with our representatives to simplify the rules, with real estate counsel to explore other possible paths to making these changes, and within our community to keep the momentum going. We are hopeful these unconstitutional restrictions will be removed from our deed restrictions (in Garden Oaks and beyond) one way or another in as timely a manner as possible. We have a beautiful neighborhood full of wonderful people who celebrate diversity. This effort is simply one small way we can act locally, support our community, and right a wrong.

*The original clauses will remain in the historical records no matter what. But it is possible to delete them from restated Deed Restrictions and refile them so that new buyers will not be seeing them in the set of documents they receive and sign, and the restated documents will be visible online when viewing current Deed Restrictions for the neighborhood.

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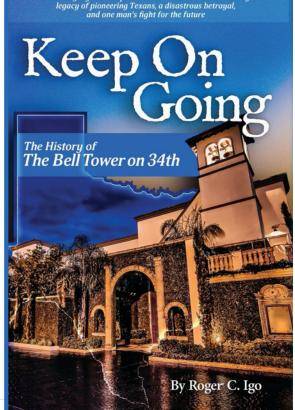
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From tragedy to triumph: A Houston venue's extraordinary

Beautification Pam Parks

The Art Park (Sue Barnett at West 43rd) has had a major clearing out of hackberry, cherry laurel, and a considerable undergrowth of oak trees. The project started late last year and restarted in May, culminating with a Work Day on June 13. Fourteen neighbors showed up to spread two truckloads of wood chippings provided by one of our local utilities. These chippings were placed along the north side of the park where we plan to infill a planting of crepe myrtles late this fall.

Volunteers wishing to pitch in on work projects in the parks are invited to contact Pam at beautification@gardenoaks.org.

Donors wishing to contribute to the Park Projects are urged to Pick a (Pocket) Park on this page: https:// www.gardenoaks.org/gocc-home/ payments/beautification-projects/.









Mickey's Minute Mickey Morales

Welcome to July, our birthday month. By that, I mean the birth of our Nation, our market, and myself. Actually our farmer's market has only been around eight and a half years, and I'm, well, just a year older. I've decided not to belabor the point that yes, it's the beginning of summer and it's hot. There's nothing we can do about it, and I gripe about it every year, and I'm sure y'all are quite tired of my rantings.

What I am going to crow about is how excited we are in the turnaround our market has experienced since the shutdown occurred. Most importantly, what has been the most pleasant of surprises is how well attended the market has been through all of this turmoil. I chalk it up to the loyal customer base that we've built over the years, along with a few new faces who have found us when the store shelves were suddenly devoid of everyday items like eggs, milk, cheese, pasta, bread, rice, and beans.

It is really gratifying to know after all the years that Farmer Cathy and I have been in this game and having evangelized about the importance of buying local from farmers, ranchers, and other artisans, that we were here to fill that need. And it's all thanks to you, the patrons who have shopped with us thru thick and thin for the past few years. Now granted, we could not fill all those needs, and no, we don't sell toilet paper, but we have a lot of what you may need.

We have now added pasta and sauces from Russo and Sons Artisan Pastas to the mix. And since our resurrection, we've been blessed to have Hugo of Cake and Bacon along with Manish's Quick 'N Easy Indian foods join our happy band of vendors. As I have mentioned before, I'm hoping to add heavy proteins to the mix like free-range chickens, grass-fed beef, pork, and lamb. By the time of this article, that wish may have been accomplished. If not, just know that it is something we're working towards.

As always, "Come soon, come often, and celebrate our birth."

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| Half Page 7 1/2 W X 4 1/2 H | \$110.00 |
| Full Page 7 1/2 W x 9 1/2 H | \$180.00 |
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Please note:

- 1. Placement of ads is subject to the discretion of the editor.
- 2. Artwork must be e-mailed to gazetteads@gardenoaks.org by the 15th of each month for publication the following month.
- 3. Artwork may be submitted in one of the following formats: JPEG (.jpg), PDF (.pdf), GIF (.gif) or TIF (.tif).





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What Can I Drink Besides Water?

Erin Thole, CNHP

I get asked this question a lot. Although pure clean water should be the majority of your fluid intake (you should drink half your body weight in ounces a day), sometimes it can get a little boring and you want a little flavor, a little treat, something fun!

So here it is. These are my top non-water beverage favorites, including my adult beverage of choice for those times when you just want to have a drink.

I stay clear of artificial flavors and sweeteners. I also avoid erythritol. It is a sugar alcohol and causes a lot of GI issues for many people.

Zevia Drinks

Stevia sweetened goodness. They make everything from soda to energy drinks to organic chilled teas. I love this brand. They do use natural flavors, which does spur some controversy to those of us who are purists. But in the name of sanity, I'm going to give us all a pass on this one. We all need a treat from time to time and there are far worse things in the world. So give yourself a break already unless you know you have a negative reaction to natural flavors.

Herbal Teas

When choosing herbal teas make sure that they are organic, and if they come in bags, that they are not bleached, chemical filled bags. Loose tea is always fine if you can't find a quality bagged tea, and it is often cheaper. You can then put it in a French press and steep it that way or in a stainless steel tea steeper.

Frontier is a great brand that you can get in bulk organic loose tea, and Traditional Medicinals is a great brand for organic bagged tea.

My favorite herbal teas

Peppermint = wakes you up and also helps with happy digestion and gall bladder. This is great for bloat and gas.

Ginger tea = for nausea and good digestion.

Ginger Tea + dandelion tea + lemon wedge = a happy liver and happy guts

Ginger and Turmeric Tea = anti inflammatory aid.

Matcha

Matcha is a Japanese powdered green tea. It has a really high ORAC value, actually one of the highest in the super-food realm, at about 1348 units per gram. The ORAC value is a way to measure the antioxidant values of foods. Matcha tea is higher than berries!

It does contain caffeine but it also contains amino acids, so the caffeine effect is not as severe on the systems of the body, such as the adrenal glands that typically get beat up by caffeine. Due to the amino acids you won't have a caffeine crash in the afternoon either. Win-win!

Like with herbal tea, I would choose loose and organic. It's a powder, so it's not like other teas. It will dissolve in the water. You just have to stir a little.

Go for the unsweetened varieties or sweetened with stevia.

Deep Eddy's Ruby Red Vodka + La Croix

Sometimes you just want an adult beverage and there is nothing wrong with that. I am not a wine fan. Too much sugar and yeast = unhappy guts and you would have to drink way too much of it to actually gain any benefit from the resveratrol it contains... and then your efforts would be thwarted by the larger amount of alcohol you just consumed and your new liver damage.

I like Deep Eddy's Vodka because it is all gluten free. The Ruby Red is my favorite. I mix one shot of Deep Eddy's Ruby Red Vodka with ice and some lemon La Croix water in a low ball glass. If I am out at a restaurant and they don't have La Croix I will go for Topo Chico. It's light, refreshing, and it's delicious.

Cheers to your health!

Erin Thole, CNHP has been working in Functional Medicine for over 12 years. To learn more and request a free consultation: www.erinthole.com - thole.erin@gmail.com.



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2020 MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT

January – December

Membership is open to all residents whether you own or rent. While all memberships are voluntary, you must contribute at least at the Basic Level to be eligible to vote on civic club matters. Membership dues are to be paid on or before January 1st for the year.

| Fill in Amount: | |
|-----------------|--|
| \$ | Basic Membership \$40 (\$20 for Seniors 65+) |
| \$ | Community Household Membership \$100 |
| \$ | Business Membership (Non-Voting) \$100 |
| \$ | Contribution to Beautification (all neighborhood green spaces) |
| \$ | Contribution to Garden Club (maintain Friendship Park, Section 1) |
| \$ | TOTAL |
| | Please mail this completed form along with your check payable to: Garden Oaks Civic Club, P.O. Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206 |
| | -OR- |
| | Pay online at <u>www.gardenoaks.org/membership;</u> upon completion, you will receive e-mail confirmation of payment. |
| Name: | |
| Address: | |
| Phone: | |
| E-Mail: | |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD!



Constable Patrol Dues Statement for 2020

[] New Member or [] Renewal

Property Address: _____ Do you need a GO Constable Supporter sign or a 2020 sticker (indicate which)? _____

Please provide contact information for program member(s) at this address:

| Member 1 Information | Member 2 Information |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Name: | Name: |
| Email: | Email: |
| Work Phone: | Work Phone: |
| | Cell Phone: |

| Emergency Contact Information | Emergency Contact Information |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Name: | Name: |
| Home Phone: | Home Phone: |
| Work Phone: | Work Phone: |
| Cell Phone: | Cell Phone: |

Payment Options (Checks made payable to GOCC)

[] Enclosed is the minimum requested payment of \$250 for 2020.

[] I/We cannot contribute \$250 but are enclosing a check for \$_____.

[] I/We will pay online (see below).

[] Please accept my additional gift of \$ _____for the year to help a neighbor on fixed income.

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Heard Under the Oak Tree *Terry Jeanes*

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. We look forward to seeing you at a Civic Club meeting soon.

| 4223 Apollo | 1078 Gardenia | 830 Lamonte |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1066 Lamonte | 721 Sue Barnett | 1566 Sue Barnett |
| 226 West 32nd | 228 West 32nd | 946 West 41st |

Happy Birthday

Caroline McLean 1st Matthew Knauth 2nd Jane E 3rd Alison Tucker 10th Jenny Espeseth 17th Deanna Zugheri 23rd Akira B 27th Sally McDaniel 27th Claire B 2nd Alexander Zugheri 2nd Mike Heath 5th Kaplan Martinez 12th Mary Sharon Komarek 18th Barbara Smith 26th Jason Cunningham 27th

Happy Anniversary

Jenny and Jason Espeseth – 7th

Congratulations to all the graduates at all grade levels including:

Suraj Patel who graduated from Pre-K and is headed to GOMM.

Emma Lozano from Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Dance.

Grace Tate graduated from St. Agnes Academy, and is going to Boston University in the fall.

Emma Felske a recent new resident to Garden Oaks with her family, who graduated from Atascocita High School in Humble ISD.

Madeline Matney graduated from Challenge Early College High School and is headed to the University of Houston in the fall.

Out and About

Tina Sabuco and Shellye Arnold spent some added time at Abundance Retreat in Wimberley. Missy Alwais and Jeremy Robinson have been busy with a brick patio project and discovered All Around Antique Brick on N. Main with reclaimed brick and hardwoods. The Sherber girls enjoyed a spontaneous trip to Sargent. It was a fast turnaround to Austin for Terry Jeanes to see a virtual rendition of her two oldest granddaughters' dance recitals. There was an outdoor graduation ceremonial walk by **Connor O'Guynn** held on his front porch. Driveway gatherings continue for the **Dilleys, Kurt Nash, Tina Greer, the Theriots, Marisa Zindler, Scott Breimeister, and Terry Jeanes**. Sunday Happenings on Sue Barnett hosted by **Fred and Gina Clarke** included **Vidal and Debbie Martinez, Bob and Debbie Driver, Mark and Laura Patterson, Judy Darden, Kathy Chang, Cesar and Liz Maldonado**, and several other neighbors.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, please submit information no later than the 13th of the month to Terry Jeanes at terry@terryjeanes.com.

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Energy Consumption Facts - True or False? Mitch Weigand

Everyone wants to reduce their utility bills. But when it comes to your home's A/C system and fixtures, common misconceptions can actually cost you money. Let's debunk some of them now.

Closing off vents and registers will reduce your A/C or heating bill.

FALSE If you have a modern central A/C system, the pressure load is balanced throughout the house. Blocking vents and registers impacts how the system circulates air that throws the system out of balance. This can cause it to work harder and less efficiently or even break down. Shutting off the vent in an unused room doesn't save anything; it actually harms.

Duct tape is good for sealing the A/C ducts in your attic.

FALSE Loose, leaky A/C ducts in your attic can really cost you money. They allow cool, dehydrated air to escape into your hot, humid attic. Duct tape actually does a lousy job at sealing ducts as it doesn't work well in dirty, dusty conditions. Mastic tape seals and insulates much better. Better yet, have your A/C service technician inspect all of the ducts.

Showering uses less energy and water than taking a bath.

TRUE Taking a 10-minute shower with a low-flow (2.5 gallons per minute) shower head uses 25 gallons of water. By comparison, a typical bath takes 30-50 gallons. There are also high-quality shower heads that use only 1.5 gallons per minute or less.

A dripping faucet can waste a significant amount of water.

TRUE A single dripping faucet can add up to 300 gallons of water per month to your water bill.

Fluorescent lights are noisy, ugly and not worth the bother.

FALSE Today's fluorescents have greatly improved color quality, and the annoying flicker and hum have been eliminated with electronic ballasts. They are more efficient than standard incandescent lighting. However, fluorescent lights do contain small amounts of mercury so should be disposed of properly.

Leaving lights, computers, and other appliances on uses less energy than turning them off and also makes them last longer.

FALSE The small surge of power created when devices are turned on is vastly smaller than the energy consumed by leaving them on when they're not needed. Twenty years ago, turning lights, computers, and appliances on and off drastically reduced their useful lifetimes but this has been largely eliminated through improved technology.

Mitch is the owner of Air Wise™



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