

# SPRING MEADOW

A PUBLICATION OF THE SPRING MEADOW HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## A WORD FROM YOUR ASSOCIATION MANAGER

Dear Spring Meadow Estates Homeowners,

Fall is here and not a moment too soon. What is not to enjoy, football, cooler weather, all of the holidays that bring friends and family together? With that in mind, please do your part in maintaining the integrity, appearance, and property value of Spring Meadows. You can do so by doing the following:

- Keep recycle and trash bins out of street view.
- Keep your lawn mowed and edged.
- Clean out any grass from flower beds and tree wells.
- If you have a side yard with a fence make sure you maintain the fence line.
- Remove any dead trees or landscaping. These trees need to be replaced no later than the end of November 2009.
- Remove all weeds from your yard and fertilize.
- Remove any excess debris from the exterior of the home.

The property will be inspected on a regular 7-10 day rotation and enforcement letters will be distributed to those who are not in compliance with the governing documents of the Association. Premier Communities Management Company is dedicated to helping protect the integrity of the community.

A new customer service number, 1-877-378-2388, has been implemented to provide immediate assistance to homeowners regarding account information, violations, and other questions or concerns associated with the Association. If further assistance is required, the caller's information will be directed to the appropriate member of the management team.

Thank you for helping keep Spring Meadows Estates one of the most desirable communities in which to live.

Kendra Etzler  
Association Manager  
877-378-2388  
[kendra.etzler@premiercommunities.net](mailto:kendra.etzler@premiercommunities.net)



## GREAT MONEY SAVING TIPS

- Switch your bank accounts to a bank that respects you. You shouldn't be spending your hard-earned money on maintenance fees - you also should be earning some serious interest on your checking and savings accounts.
- Turn off the television. One big way to save money is to watch less television. There are a lot of financial benefits to this: less exposure to guilt-inducing ads, more time to focus on other things in life, less electrical use, and so on. It's great to unwind in the evening, but seek another hobby to do that.
- Sign up for every free customer rewards program you can. Even if you rarely shop at that place, having a rewards card for that place will eventually net you some coupons and discounts.
- Make your own gifts instead of buying them from the store. You can make food mixes, candles, bread, cookies, soap, and all kinds of other things at home quite easily and inexpensively. These make spectacular gifts for others because they involve your homemade touch, plus quite often they're consumable, meaning they don't wind up filling someone's closet with junk. Even better - include a personal handwritten note with the gift. This will make it even more special than anything you could possibly buy down at the mall, plus it saves you money.



Obviously, not all of these tips will apply to everyone. Use them in your life - you'll quickly find yourself saving some serious money.

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## SAFETY FIRST

We can all agree that one of our top priorities is the safety of our children. Here are some tips on how we can keep our kids AND our neighborhoods safe.

Make certain your children know their full name, address and telephone number. If your children ride the bus to school, visit the bus stop and learn the bus number.

Get out and meet your neighbors. Introduce them to your children while you are with them.

Have a list of emergency telephone numbers by your telephone and in you and your children's cell phones. Make certain that there are backup people your children can contact if they need assistance and you are not home.

Walk your surrounding streets and have the children learn the names of them. Warn them about the dangers of taking shortcuts off the main streets.

Once your children have made new friends in the neighborhood, remind them that they must CHECK FIRST before they go anywhere with their new friends. This includes accepting rides from neighbors or going into their homes.

**If the children are left alone, be sure they follow these rules:**

- Keep the doors and windows locked.
- Never open the door for someone they don't know.
- Check with you FIRST before they open the door, even if you are there.
- Caution your children to never give out personal information to someone who calls on the telephone. Instruct your children to tell the caller that you are not available and to take a message.
- Remember to practice these basic safety rules with your children to make certain that they really know and understand them. Make outings around the neighborhood "teaching moments" and a chance to put their skills to the test.

## A WORD FROM YOUR BOARD

WOW, what a wet October! It not only caused the Social and Safety Committees to cancel our annual National Night Out, but it is also delaying the construction to our entrance off of DEWITT St. Hopefully, it will stop raining some day and the construction will begin again.

We were concerned that the construction would scare off our pair of Mallard ducks at our pond area, but nope---they are still there. Unfortunately, they will probably fly away soon as the weather gets colder. Everyone is hoping they will come back next Spring.

We have received numerous Architectural Control Committee request forms for various modifications. These requests were for solar screen installation, widening/extending the driveway, patio cover and installation of a drainage system. All were reviewed and were within the guidelines of the HOA Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions and therefore were approved.

The Holidays are fast approaching and we hope you have a safe, joyous and illness free season.

*We'll be seeing you in the neighborhood.*

Spring Meadow HOA Board,  
Lynda, Darin and Carol

## A WORD FROM YOUR LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Our summer seemed to come to an abrupt and early end this year. Now it is time for fall and winter feedings and weed treatments to be ready for next spring...

Congrats to our "Yard of the Month" winners:

August - **6904 Indian Meadow**  
September - **6824 Shady View**



Also, a "well done" to so many of our home sites. Each month was a struggle to pick the "best" from so many great looking yards. You are all to be congratulated for our good looking community.

As a reminder, Yard of the Month winners receive a \$25.00 gift card (usually for Lowe's or Home Depot) and the opportunity to display the Spring Meadow Estates Yard of the Month sign for a month! Our next "prize" will be awarded for the best Holiday decorations (as determined by the Landscape Committee). So string up those lights and maybe you will get an extra gift from "Santa"...

R. Jack Frost, Landscape Committee Chair

## AUTUMN FACTS

- Fall colors are best when late Summer is dry & Autumn has bright sunny days & cool nights below 40 °F.
- Fall days become shorter & many plants stop making food. That is when the green chlorophyll starts to disappear from the leaves.
- Composting Fall leaves is an excellent way to improve yard & garden soils. Mixing green & brown materials together is the basic rule.



## BENEFITS OF FALL PLANTING

While Spring is typically the busy garden season, Fall is the best time for planting landscape perennials, shrubs and trees for many reasons.

Fall brings more than glorious color and crisp mornings - it also brings the best time for planting new perennials, shrubs and trees in the garden. Here are a few reasons why Fall planting is so beneficial.



- Planting perennials in the Fall gives them time to establish healthy root systems. New perennials planted in the Spring must survive Summer heat and stress with very young root systems while still producing enough nutrients to support months of growth and flowering. By planting shrubs and trees in the fall, roots have a chance to grow all Autumn, and most of the Winter as well, without having to supply nourishment for the busy growing season as well. Roots of Fall planted plants will continue growing as long as the ground temperature is above 50 degrees Fahrenheit which can give them several months of head start growth time.

- Plants put in the ground in the Fall need less water to establish. All plants need plenty of water while they are in the "establishment" stage and growing strong root systems through the surrounding soil; however by planting in the Fall, gardeners will conserve water without the heat of Summer stressing the plants. Plants themselves use less water since photosynthesis is slowed by shorter days. Evaporation rates slow down during the Fall, so water in the soil lasts longer as well.

- Fall is a great time to find garden specials, bargains, discount plants and package deals. Many gardening companies offer Fall specials on trees, shrubs and otherwise pricey perennials during the Fall planting season to encourage gardeners to plant at that time. An Autumn gardener can save hundreds on a large landscape project by planning during the heat of Summer and buying their large plants during Fall savings bargains! For example, a mail order gardening company recently sent out a notice about 1 gallon perennials that were 75% if ordered this Fall versus waiting until next Spring.



- Perennials and bulbs can be planted together without damaging established root systems. Instead of digging through perennial plants that have been in the ground for several months to layer bulbs, a Fall gardener can plant everything at the same time. Not only will this save transplant shock on sensitive perennials, but it will save time and energy for the Autumn gardener as well!

## FALL IS IDEAL TIME FOR YOUR YARD



Fall is the perfect time to think creatively about your yard and what you would like to add, change or simply do differently next year.

You can start this process anywhere, even in your favorite chair. Put your feet up and page through the home and garden magazines. Make a list of projects you've seen that you would like to try in the future.

Maybe you've always wanted to build flowerboxes for you windows or add a garden shed. Jot down some notes and tear out pictures you find as you browse. If you do not subscribe to these publications, you can still plan next year's list by making a visit to your local library's periodicals collection; just do not tear out any articles! The Internet can also provide a wealth of ideas if you can spare some time to search topics you like.

Next, on a Fall weekend, take a ride through some

neighborhoods. Park the car and walk so that you can really view the homes and their yards. It's a great way to add to your idea bank.

Take time this fall to visit your county agricultural extension office and your local horticultural center or park. Both are good bets for picking up free or inexpensive brochures on a variety of lawn and garden topics. These experts can also put you in touch with other yard care enthusiasts.

Finally, sketch out what your yard currently looks like. You do not have to be an artist, but if you can try to draw it to scale, it will be helpful. You want to capture the landscape elements you already have in place relative to your home, driveway, patio, etc. This sketch will help you think for Spring as you continue planning during the dormant months ahead. In addition, take photos of your yard from various angles. On a cold day this winter, you will be able to work on your yard from the comfort of your home!



SPRING MEADOW HOA  
C/O PREMIER COMMUNITIES MANAGEMENT COMPANY  
3102 OAK LAWN AVE, SUITE 202  
DALLAS, TX 75219

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PREMIER COMMUNITIES  
MANAGEMENT COMPANY  
WWW.PREMIERCOMMUNITIES.NET  
TELEPHONE: (214) 871-9700  
FAX: (214) 889-9980

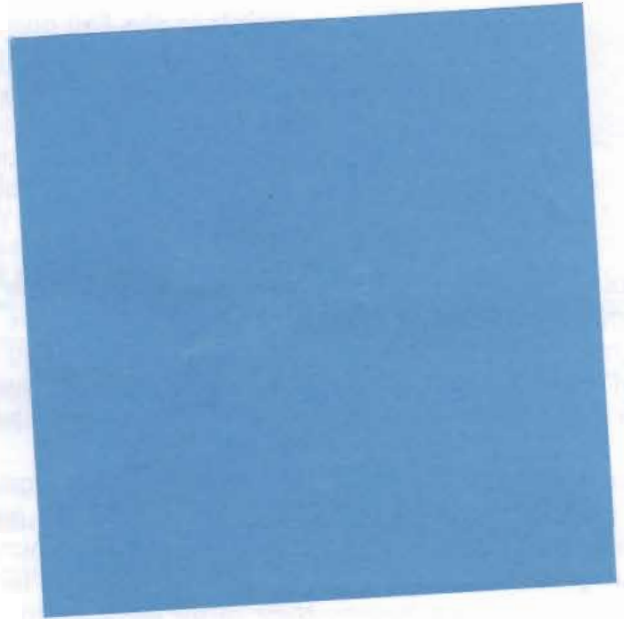
Association Manager-  
Kendra Etzler  
(877) 378-2388  
[kendra.etzler@premiercommunities.net](mailto:kendra.etzler@premiercommunities.net)

Customer Service/ Billing questions-  
(877) 378-2388  
[accountservices@premiercommunities.net](mailto:accountservices@premiercommunities.net)

Amenities/Reservations Questions-  
[reservations@premiercommunities.net](mailto:reservations@premiercommunities.net)

Resale & Refinance Certificates-  
(888) 679-2500  
[www.premiercommunities.net/resale.html](http://www.premiercommunities.net/resale.html)

After hours Property Emergency number-  
(214) 871-9700 ext 335019 HMBXNP1 75048



### DOG GONE IT!

We are aware that there are a lot of animal lovers in Spring Meadow. It would be great to get everyone's help in remembering the following:

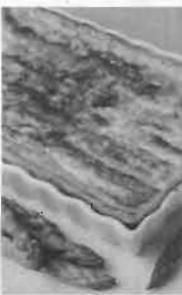
- Keep your pet leashed or contained.
- Clean up after your pet.
- Ask before the Sniff! You never know how animals or people will react to each other, be polite & respectful.
- Know when it's best to leave your pet at home.
- Please be aware that if you can hear your dog barking out back, it is probably safe to assume that your neighbors can hear it too. Let's be courteous and try to keep animal noise to a minimum.

### ASPARAGUS CASSEROLE

- 1 small package of frozen asparagus (cooked)
- 2 boiling bags rice (cooked)
- 8 oz cream cheese softened
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1/2 cup cheddar cheese (shredded)

Preheat oven 350 degrees

Combine first 4 ingredients into a small casserole dish. Cover with cheddar cheese and bake of 20 minutes or until it bubbles..



### CHICKEN LASAGNA ROLL-UPS

- 1 pound of cooked chicken breast (diced or shredded)
- 1 egg
- small tub of ricotta cheese
- 2 cups of mozzarella cheese (divided)
- 8 to 10 lasagna noodles (cooked)
- spaghetti sauce
- Italian seasoning
- garlic salt (or powder)

Preheat oven 350 degrees

Combine ricotta cheese, half of the mozzarella cheese, egg, chicken, Italian seasonings, and garlic salt (or powder). Spread mixture over lasagna noodles and roll up. Set rolled up lasagna in a 13 x 9 casserole dish. Cover roll-ups with spaghetti sauce and the rest of mozzarella cheese. Bake for 25-30 minutes.

