

Houston Laker

*It's
to*

*time
start*



planting



May 2011



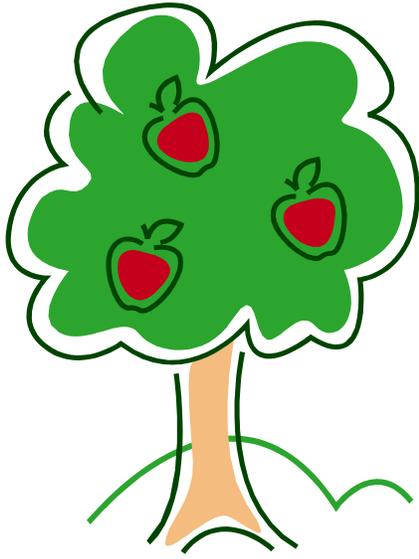
Community Events

**May 9 - City Council Meeting
7:30 pm - City Hall**

May 11 - Recycling Day

**May 14 - Annual Clean-up Day
If you would like to volunteer
Please be at City Hall at 9:00 am**

**May 19 - Venetian Garden Homes Association
Board Meeting
7:00 pm - City Hall**



Thank you so much "Grass Pad" for your wonderful donation of an Apple Tree to our Community Garden Fund Raiser Dinner!!!!

The Grass Pad had always been the "go to" place for all of our garden needs and great advise.

" The Grass Pad"
11500 NW Barry Road
Kansas City, Missouri
816.891.9100

ANNUAL CITY / LAKE **CLEAN-UP DAY**

The accumulation of discarded material, damaged and inoperable merchandise is in violation of Section 215.010 of the Houston Lake Municipal code. To avoid a citation and/or court appearance, the City Council is providing a free opportunity again this year for residents to dispose of such items.

Allied Waste will be placing a 30 cubic yard, roll off dumpster at City Hall on Saturday, May 14th. Residents that are not able to bring their items to City Hall should place such items curbside. Our City truck will collect these items for you.

Please do not block the access to mailboxes or fire hydrants.

Appliances such as washers, dryers, refrigerators etc. will not be allowed in the dumpster. These items require a separate pick up. Please call to arrange this at 816-254-1470.

No hazardous waste (paint, chemicals, batteries, tires etc.)
No yard waste please!!

Taking advantage of this opportunity will prevent future problems. If you have any questions, please call:

Marsha Duncan
419-5051

F Y I

ARTICLE II. PERMITS

SECTION 500.100: BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED

All persons desiring to construct, erect, alter or add to any building, boat dock, fences, road or drive or any structure in the City of Houston Lake, Missouri, **must first obtain a building permit** for such construction, alteration or addition from the Board of Aldermen of said City. (Ord. No. 282 §2, 10-14-02)

SECTION 500.110: PERMIT APPLICATIONS

All persons desiring to obtain such a permit shall submit an application with the complete plans and specifications and plot plan for such construction showing sizes, estimated cost and details of such proposed construction and the location of such construction upon the plot of land. No new dwelling construction or property line fence construction will be permitted until after certified surveys have been filed with the Board of Aldermen. Certified surveys will be required on all additions to old dwellings where the new construction will be closer to the property line than the old dwelling. (Ord. No. 282 §3, 10-14-02) Applications for a building permit may be obtained by leaving a message at City Hall, contacting your Alderman or calling City Clerk at 816-419-5051.

Venetian Gardens Homes Association

Meeting minutes for the Venetian Gardens Homes Association Semi-Annual meeting held 04-14-2011. In attendance were Bill Gay President, Nick Jackalone Vice-President, Al Horine Secretary and Kerry Hallowell Treasurer. Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. Approximately 10 residents were in attendance.

The board reports that Nick fixed the sign at the swim area and that Kerry and some volunteers have been planting wild flower seeds around the lake.

Residents voiced several complaints to the board. The issue of the silt curtain was brought up, it was reiterated that the silt curtain purchased was not suitable for the purpose it was purchased for. The manufacturer of the curtains engineering department have been contacted in the past and state it is not intended for long term use or across heavy flows of water. It would last approximately 18 months in the water and would need to be taken down every time it rains. Any silt it stopped would be washed into the lake each time it was taken down. Those and other issues indicate it would not be advisable to install the curtain.

The bowl out project above the rock dam was brought up the project is still in the works for this year. Anyone who would like to be on the project committee can contact the board.

Al Horine brought up the issue of grass carp with a suggestion to purchase 100 grass carp at a price of \$685.00 including shipping if ordered before Monday after which the price would go up, a rate of 5.5 carp per acre. This issue has been brought up many times in the past and has been rejected due to possible negative impact on the lake. The board agreed to purchase carp with no negative feedback from members present.

Lake clean up day projects were discussed. The board would appreciate any volunteers for cleanup day. Volunteers will be needed throughout the day for clean up and maintenance projects. Volunteers with boats will be needed to clean trash out of the lake.

Addendum to meeting minutes. After the meeting the fish hatchery selling the carp was contacted Friday night he reports that the price of shipping would be half the regular price if ordered on or before Tuesday. Friday a call was placed to the Missouri department of conservation to discuss the issue of grass carp. The lakes history of lack of vegetation in the past was discussed with Officer Jake. In the past the lake was stocked at a rate of 4 carp per acre which devastated the vegetation in the lake. He felt that 36 carp would be a more appropriate number. Pros and cons were discussed. Samples of lake vegetation were brought in to his office and left for him to identify. On Saturday officer Jake contacted Bill and identified the samples as coon tail (a rooted plant the grass carp will eat) curly leafed pond weed (a plant the carp will not eat and usually dies of by mid June due to the hotter weather), duck weed (a floating plant which grass carp will not eat and the presence of grass carp could make worse) and algae a non filamentous growth the grass carp will not eat. Al recommended a second Missouri department of conservation officer be contacted. Officer Mike in the Kirksville office was contacted. The history of the lake and its documented history of a lack of vegetation from at least 1985 on were discussed (including reports from the 40's recommending aquatic plant life for fish cover and forage). He recommended a reduced amount of carp around 20 would be a more suitable number for control of coon weed. Pros and cons were discussed. Results of these conversations were discussed with Al, Nick and Kerry. They were encouraged to read the Cerrito report and its recommendations. A compromise was reached and 30 instead of the original 100 proposed carp were purchased. That is a rate of 1.6 carp per acre significantly less than the 5.5 per acre proposed and the previously stocked ratio of 4 per acre which devastated the vegetation in the lake. It will take 3-5 years for results to be seen. Total cost \$218.50. aesthetics, swimming, fishing and boating as well as other recreational uses of the lake often have contradictory interests. As with any compromise no one wins and everyone loses a little.



Don't Forget Your Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2011 Bracelet!!

Lake Residents from the age of 16 through 64 need a Missouri Fishing License and a Houston Lake 2011 light green Bracelet in order to fish in Houston Lake. Residents 65 and over need only a 2011 bracelet.

To get your 2011 Lake bracelets call Homes Association Treasurer,
Kerry Hallowell 816-695-4100.

The Bracelets are FREE if your Homes Association dues are paid.

Guests of Residents must have that Residents 2011 Bracelet with them when they are on or around the lake.

NO trout lines, jug lines or unattended fishing lines.

NO FISHING IN THE BEACH AREA.

“Those who cannot remember the Past are condemned to repeat it”

George Santayna

To the Powers that be:

What in the world are you thinking??? The recent releasing of 30 carp into Houston Lake for the sole purpose of getting rid of “duckweed” has to be one of the most preposterous decisions this Home’s Association Board has made to date.

In 1999 the Houston Lake Watershed Management Committee was formed. Their motive was very clear. Houston Lake was in trouble. Years of silt runoff from unchecked development and years of ignoring multiple reports from the Missouri Department of Conservation, Houston Lake needed help. This committee, Mike Hallauer, Janette Boehm, Sharron DeLaFuente and the late former Mayor Jean Hallauer, spent thousands of unpaid hours researching the “why”. They discovered reports dating from 1942, all saying the same thing.

In 2001, Park University did a study on the wellness of the Lake. On May 8, 2002 Charles Cherrito from the Department of Biology released his final report and recommendations. The Lake was deemed **“barren”**. The fish were stunted. **The lack of fish habitat or aquatic vegetation was needed immediately.** These same conclusions appeared multiple times through the years.

Many things attributed to this condition including the carp population. It was recommended (again) we harvest, or get rid of, all carp as they destroy the vegetation needed for nests, eggs and smaller fish to hide. **In other words, the carp were destroying the food supply!!!**

Fact: Carp do not eat duckweed

Fact: Carp destroy the natural habitat for other fish, thus destroying the eco system.

Fact: As the carp destroy the underwater vegetation, the nutrients that produced the vegetation are released to rise and produce even MORE duckweed.

Fact: Houston Lake has a 20% total vegetation (underwater) which is healthy for the lake according to the Park University study. Aquatic plants produce dissolved oxygen. A healthy lake NEEDS dissolved oxygen!!!

A report from the State of Missouri Conservation Commission dated August 31, 1942 stated “When removal of undesirable or surplus vegetation, mechanical means are preferable to maintain nature’s balance”.....So, in other words, if you don’t like the duckweed on the lake, get off your “hind quarters”, get in a boat, seine it off and drag it to the spillway!!!!

All of this information has been compiled in a book containing observations and recommendations from engineers, land surveyors, fishery biologists, Doctors of Biology, chemists, Missouri Department of Conservation and the final study and analysis from Park University.

For the genius who said “carp will eat duckweed if they get hungry enough”.....If that happens, Houston Lake is back at square one again.....Barren..... Welcome 1985.

It took 10 years for this lake to get healthy again and ten minutes to possibly destroying it. I strongly urge all residents, who have a vested interest in the lake, demand that the Venetian Garden Homes Association Board, before making ANY decision regarding the lake (other than when the porta poddy will be installed) consult the Watershed Management Committee.

NO MORE CARP AND NO CHEMICALS

Anyone is welcome to read this time lined and well documented book that has been quoted here. I would also highly recommend that each of the Homes Association Board members refer to this book before making any decisions regarding the wellness of the lake. If you are interested in seeing this book, please contact:

Mayor Mike Hallauer – 215-9138
President Bill Gay- 584-9548
City Clerk Marsha Duncan – 419-5051

You are certainly welcome to voice your opinions, but you are not allowed to make up your own facts

Marsha Duncan
City Clerk
cityclerk@houstonlake.net
816.419.5051

The opinions expressed by this Writer and those providing comments are theirs along, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this Editor. Houston Laker Editor is not responsible for the accuracy of any of the information.

Editor



Water Services Department

Office of the Director

4800 East 63rd Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64130

(816) 513-0271
FAX (816) 513-0185

March 24, 2011

City of Houston Lake
5417 Northwest Adrian
Houston Lake, Missouri 64151

As a valued cooperative sanitary sewer agreement customer, we want to advise you that the KCMO Water Services Department has new sewer rates for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. The new rates were approved by the KCMO City Council (Ordinance No. 110167) and will take effect on May 1, 2011.

The new rates that can affect your community are:

Residential

Where water consumption is not available

\$ 28.55 per resident per month

Where water consumption is available

\$ 9.90 per month

\$ 3.16 per ccf of water consumption

2010 - 2011
RATE 25⁰⁰

Commercial

\$ 9.90 per month

\$ 3.16 per ccf of water consumption

If you have any questions concerning the rate changes or need any additional information please call me at 816-513-0225.

Sincerely,

Roger A. Lehr, P.E.
Engineer, Directors Office

cc: Sean Hennessy

May 9, 2011
Council Meeting Agenda
City of Houston Lake – City Hall 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening Session

2. Public Discussion

3. Minutes

4. Building Permits

5. Treasurer's report - Collector's Report - Budget

6. Paybills – Resolution No 05-09-11

7. Emergency Management

8. Police Report - Codes Report

9. Reports from Aldermen

Mr. Cowan

Mr. Otte

Mr. Coronado

Mr. Davis

10. Old Business

11. New Business

- a. Property Maintenance
- b. City/Lake clean-up day

12. Mayors Report

13. Closed Session

a. A motion to enter into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) for discussion of Legal issues, RSMo 610.021(2) for Real Estate (purchasing or selling) and RSMo 610.021(3) for Personnel issues.

14. Re-enter Open Session

15. Adjournment

City of Houston Lake

Unofficial Minutes of the Council Meeting

April 11, 2011

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on April 11, 2011 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Phil Otte , Perry Davis, Dan Coronado, Rick Cowan and City Collector Joyce Kullman.

Opening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Hallauer presided.

Oaths of Office were administered to Mayor Hallauer, Alderman Rick Cowan and Alderman Phil Otte by City Clerk Marsha Duncan.

A motion to nominate Alderman Rick Cowan as Mayor Pro-tem was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderman Coronado. All agreed and motion passed.

Public Discussion the

Resident Jo King told the Council that she has had some problems with the pick up of her recycling. She has called Allied Waste regarding this matter and it has not been rectified. Mayor Hallauer told her that he would look into the matter.

She also suggested that all fire hydrants be checked out. Mayor Hallauer told her that Missouri American Water checks each hydrant once a year.

Minutes March 14, 2011

The minutes were approved by general consent.

Building Permit

A building permit for 3540 NW Edgewater Trail was approved by the Council by general consent.

Treasurers Report

Alderman Davis moved that we accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Alderman Cowan. Motion passed.

Resolution 4-11--11 (paybills)

Alderman Coronado moved that we accept Resolution 4-11-11, seconded by Alderman . Otte.

Motion passed.

Collectors Report

City Collector Joyce Kullman presented the collectors report to the Council. The total deposits for the City of \$27,657.78 were made for the period ending 3-31-11.

Emergency Management

Director of Houston Lake Emergency Management, Alderman Cowan reminded everyone of the Earthquake Drill on 4-28-11 at 10:15 am. He also has received several completed questionnaires from residents. This questionnaire will be published in the Laker several more times in hopes of receiving more responses. A door to door campaign made be needed to alert residents how important this questionnaire is. An Emergency Action Plan will also need to be approved by the Council at next's months meeting.

Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report

A Platte County Sheriff's report was submitted to the Council for the month of March 2011.

Reports from Aldermen

Alderman Cowan – Alderman Cowan gave his congratulations to the election of Mayor Hallauer and Alderman Phil Otte. He also stressed the importance of keeping the awareness of the eventual repair of our sewers to our residents.

Alderman Otte – Alderman Otte gave his congratulations to the elected officials and also to the people that took their time to get out and vote.

Alderman Coronado – Alderman Coronado also gave his congratulations to the elected. He informed the Council that the house at 5424 Houston Drive had been completely cleaned of debris.

Alderman Davis – Alderman Davis gave his congratulations to the elected. He also praised Officer Beeler for making his presence known on Edgewater Trail and Houston Drive. He informed the Council that he has filled the pot hole on Edgewater Trail.

Old Business

New Business

a. Mayor Hallauer asked the Council to review the Riverside property maintenance codes that Mitch Kelly, Code Enforcement Officer, presented to the Council for possible adoption. These codes will be reviewed and discussed in full at the next City meeting.

b. The Annual City/Lake clean-up day will be May 14th.

Mayors Report

a. Mayor Hallauer told the Council that he has received a letter from the KCMO Water Services Department giving the new sewer rate increase. The new rate will be \$28.55 per resident per month. The rate for last year was \$25.20.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

Please take a moment to fill out the questionnaire below. This information is vitally needed to insure that you and your family have the maximum support from your City and Platte County Emergency Management Officials in the event of a disaster. All information will be "highly confidential" and shared with no one. Please place this in a sealed envelope and deposit in the "black" mail box to the left of the City Hall front door.

Name:

Address:

Daytime phone No.

Evening phone No.

Cell phone:

Number of adults (18 and older):

Number of children:

Names and ages:

Names and ages:

Number of dogs:

Number of cats:

Is there anyone in the household who requires special medical attention?

If so, who and please provide details (oxygen, wheelchair, walker)

Is there anyone in the household who depends on insulin for diabetes?

If so, who and how much medication is needed daily.

Is there anyone in the household that suffers from heart disease?

If so, who and please provide details (pacemaker, atrial fibrillation, etc.)

Is daycare or adult daycare provided at this residence?

If so, what are the hours of operation?

How many in attendance?

Is there anyone in the household who cannot speak English?

If so, who and what language is used?

If you decline to provide this information, which is being gathered to assist local authorities in the event of a disaster, you may be jeopardizing your health and well being. For this reason, we ask that you sign the waiver below and return this form to City Hall.

I understand that I will not and cannot hold the City of Houston Lake, its Officials or Platte County Emergency Management and its Officials responsible for my welfare in the event of a disaster whether man made or weather related.

Signature

Date



Important Notice

Your trash pick-up day is **every Wednesday**. Your **recycling** day will also be on a Wednesday.

Your items must be curbside by 7:00 a.m.

Maximum of 10 bags per household.

Any loose material, such as carpet or building material needs to be cut down to 4 foot lengths and bound together weighing less than 50 pounds.

Any extra pick up needs that you may have, please contact Allied Waste
For scheduling call Allied Waste at
816-254-1470

The holidays that Allied Waste observe are New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. When any of these holidays fall on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, your trash pick up will be on Thursday of that week.

2011 Holiday Schedule:

Pick-up Day

New Years (Saturday 1-1-11)

Wednesday

Memorial Day (Monday 5-30-11)

Thursday 6-2-11

Independence Day (Monday 7-4-11)

Thursday 7-7-11

Labor Day (Monday 9-5-11)

Thursday 9-8-11

Thanksgiving (Thursday 11-24-11)

Wednesday

Christmas Day (Sunday 12-25-11)

Wednesday

New Years (Sunday 1-1-12)

Wednesday

2011 Recycling Schedule

This is your new 2011 Recycling Schedule.
Please keep this memo for reference.



January 19, 2011

February 16, 2011

March 16, 2011

April 13, 2011

May 11, 2011

June 8, 2011

July 7, 2011

August 3, 2011

August 31, 2011

September 28, 2011

October 26, 2011

November 23, 2011

December 21, 2011





When you walk your dog please be considerate of your neighbors and where your dog does its business. If the dog does go in someone's yard please pick it up with something and dispose of it. Neighbors are out in their yard now and they may not see it.

THANK YOU



CHAPTER 205: ANIMAL REGULATIONS

SECTION 205.010: DEFINITIONS

The following words, when used in this Chapter, shall have the meanings set out herein:

DOGS OR CATS: All animals of the canine or feline species, both male and female.

OWNER OR KEEPER: Any person having a right of property in a dog or cat, or who keeps or harbors a dog or cat, or who has it in his/her care or acts as its custodian, or who knowingly permits a dog or cat to remain on or about any premises owned or occupied by him/her.

SECTION 205.020: VACCINATION

The owner or keeper of any dog or cat in the City of Houston Lake is hereby required to have such animals vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian and to procure a certificate of such vaccination from the veterinarian and to present such certificate to the City Clerk on or before May first (1st) of each year; and the City Clerk shall register such certificate, which registration shall remain in force until the April thirtieth (30th) next following said registration. It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog or cat to permit such animal to remain in the City of Houston Lake unless vaccinated as above provided.

SECTION 205.030: RUNNING AT LARGE PROHIBITED—IMPOUNDMENT

It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog or cat to permit the same to run at large within the City of Houston Lake at any time. Any dog or cat found without the registration provided in Section 205.020, and any dog or cat found running at large, shall be impounded.

SECTION 205.120: KNOWINGLY RELEASING AN ANIMAL

A person commits the offense of knowingly releasing an animal if that person, acting without the consent of the owner or custodian of an animal, intentionally releases any animal that is lawfully confined for the purpose of companionship or protection of persons or property or for recreation, exhibition or educational purposes.

SECTION 205.150: NUISANCE ANIMALS PROHIBITED

No person shall own, keep or harbor any dog or bitch which, by loud, frequent or habitual barking, howling or yelping, shall annoy or disturb any neighborhood or person or by habitually jumping upon or threatening persons upon public streets or shall cause persons thereon to be put in fear of injury. (Ord. No. 143 §6, 2-23-81)

Houston Lake Cookbook

(Recipe Form)

To have your favorite recipe/recipes published in the next Houston Lake Cookbook, please fill out the form below and submit it to Mary Head via phone, 741-5639, e-mail maryjewelh@aol.com or mail to 5328 NW Houston Drive, Houston Lake, Mo. 64151.



Additional forms can be requested through Mary, e-mail or at City Hall.

Recipe Category

(one recipe per page)

Appetizers
 Main Dishes

Beverages
 Breads

Soup
 Vegetarian

Salads
 Desserts

Vegetables
 Miscellaneous

Recipe Title: _____

Please Type or Print Plainly

Ingredients

Please use these abbreviations: C for cup, tsp. for teaspoon, Tbsp. for Tablespoon, pkg. for package, qt. for quart, pt. for pint, oz. for ounce, and lb. for pound.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Method or Mixing Instructions

Submitted

by: _____

Telephone number () _____

Please Print or Type Name Legibly