



WELLS BRANCH WORD

A newsletter for the residents of the Wells Branch Municipal Utility District

New trees spring up in Wells Branch

Residents can expect to see more trees in the neighborhood as the Wells Branch MUD and the Trees for Trails group have coordinated several upcoming tree plantings.

The conceptual drawing below represents a tree planting planned for the area just east of Wells Port, near the Annex building. It will be broken into two phases, which are planned to be completed by mid-February. A yet to be finalized phase three and four are planned for areas further down the creek in future years.

On January 26, in a joint venture with TreeFolks, the Trees for Trails citizens group planted trees near Mills Pond. Future tree plantings will be made based on a master plan developed by the Trees for Trails group.

The MUD will implement these concepts in phases over the coming years, while keeping a watchful eye on both the budget and weather.

You can go to www.wellsbranchmud.com and click the “Trees for Trails” tab on the left to see conceptual drawings of other planned tree plantings around the pond, in the North Meadow, and around Katherine Fleischer Park.



A conceptual drawing of a tree planting planned for the area east of Wells Port, near the Annex building. To find out more about the Trees for Trails group and future plans for tree plantings, go to www.wellsbranchmud.com and click the Trails for Trails tab on the left side of the page.

Please remember to always lock your car doors and hide or take any valuables and electronics with you when you leave your vehicle.

Valentine’s Day Dance and Concert Feb. 14

Wells Branch MUD hosts its annual Valentine’s Day dance and concert February 14, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Everyone is invited to dance on an open dance floor to the sounds of a live band. The MUD will provide snack foods and drinks for everyone as well as roses for the ladies.

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If you have a broken trash or recycling cart, please notify the MUD office at 251-9814 to get it replaced.

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Common Covenants in Wells Branch

Help keep our neighborhood beautiful and avoid any violations by being aware of the restrictive covenants in your area. Here's a list of covenants that are common throughout most portions of Wells Branch:

- Substantial changes to the appearance of your property (i.e. additions, patios, decks or alterations of garages into living areas) are prohibited without prior, written approval of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). For assistance in contacting the ACC in your area, call the MUD office at 251-9814.
- The size and location of outbuildings is usually restricted. In most areas, approval for outbuildings must be obtained from the ACC.
- Mobile homes, campers, trailers, derelict or junk vehicles, racing vehicles and vehicles without a current license tag may not be visible from the street nor parked on the street. Motor vehicle repair, except for emergency repairs, is prohibited.
- In most sections, no recreational vehicle, bus, boat, trailer, motorhome or truck larger than 3/4 ton may be parked in public view.
- No rubbish or trash may be placed on any lot, except in approved, sanitary trash containers. Residents are urged to place trash carts and recycling bins at the curb no earlier than 6 p.m. the day before collection and to remove them from public view by 6 p.m. the day after collection.
- No equipment may be stored on the driveway; it must be screened from view, in back of a fence.
- To avoid becoming a nuisance, all yards and curb areas must be maintained, mowed, trimmed and kept in a clean and neat condition.
- Maintenance of fences is required in all sections.

To check the covenants for your area, go to www.wellsbranchmud.com and click the "Services" tab to find the covenants map.

Saving water now saves money all year long

You can lower your water bill all year by saving water through February. Winter wastewater averaging began with the Nov. 14 meter reading and will end with the Feb. 14 reading. Starting this year, due to the City of Austin's change, the MUD will average the usage from all three months to determine your wastewater bill for the year (instead of dropping the highest month as in previous years).

These months are used to determine the average because typically, less outside water is used during the winter, so it's a good measure of the volume flowing through your wastewater system. For more information, contact Margaret Wingrove with Crossroads Utility Services at 246-5908.

Ways to Conserve Water During the Winter

- Fix all leaky faucets, both inside and outside.
- Check toilets for leaks.
- Turn off your irrigation system.
- Only run your dishwasher and washing machine when full.
- Install water-saving showerheads that use 2.5 gallons per minute or less.

Save the date...

Feb. 14: Valentine's Day Dance and Concert, free event, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Community Center.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day Parade, free event, parade begins with the Silver Thistle Pipes and Drums at 7 p.m. at Katherine Fleischer Park.

April 14: Keep Wells Branch Beautiful Clean-up Day

Dog Fair, free event, 10 to 1 p.m. at Katherine Fleischer Park.

* Times are subject to change. See www.wellsbranchmud.com for the latest event updates.

Pay your water bill ONLINE!

Wells Branch residents now have the option to pay their water bill online. Go to www.crossroadsus.com and click "Pay My Bill" on the left side menu.

You can also set up automatic bill payments with your credit card at no extra charge. Just contact Crossroads Utility Services at 512-246-1400 for authorization.

For water and wastewater emergencies 24/7 and billing questions 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, please contact Crossroads Utility Services at 512-246-1400 or email customerservice@crossroadsus.com