



Old Spring Branch Bugler

FEBRUARY 2026

To view this and past newsletters visit oldspringbranch.org/newsletter

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, February 26: **JUNK WASTE**

Thursday, March 26: **TREE WASTE**

**For most accurate date, visit the Solid Waste Management Dept.'s website at HoustonTX.gov/solidwaste/holiday.*

REMEMBER: OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

Well, here we go again, looking ahead to how we, as a neighborhood, will meet the challenges of 2026. We should all establish goals in our personal lives that help raise the overall standard of living in Old Spring Branch.

We must continue to respect and follow the “rules of the land,” including deed restrictions, City of Houston ordinances, and, just as importantly, the feelings of the neighbors who live next door, across from us, and behind us.

If you, as a resident, are experiencing issues with a neighbor, document every violation that affects you. Report any harassment to the appropriate authorities. It is unfortunate, but there are bullies among us. Ignore the bully when possible, but always remain aware of their presence and protect yourself.

The Old Spring Branch Civic Association is here to support you and your family. Attend our meetings to share your concerns and challenges. We will listen and do our best to help. You may discover that others are facing similar situations, and hearing how they addressed them may help you find a solution of your own.

Take care of yourselves. Be kind and considerate of others. Love yourself first. Be a friend. Let's make 2026 a successful and happy year, one day at a time.

Old Spring Branch Civic Association (OSBCA)

Quarterly Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

6:30 – 8 p.m.

Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Rd.



Follow us on Facebook!
Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch



Check out our website!
OldSpringBranch.org

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS: SHARE THE LOVE THIS FEBRUARY

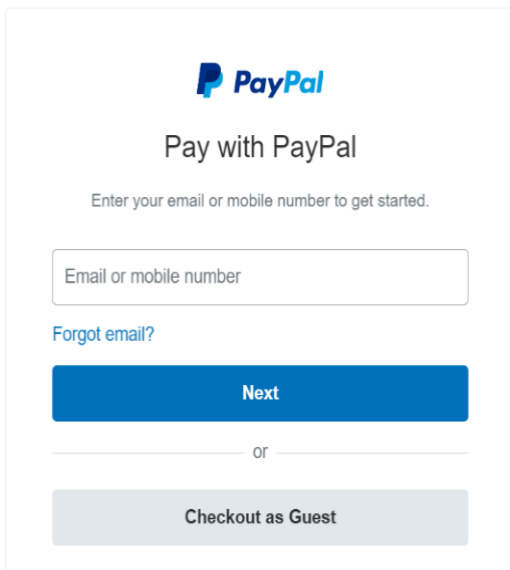
February is the month of Valentine’s Day, a perfect reminder to show a little love to the people and places that make Old Spring Branch feel like home. One simple way to do that is by renewing your OSBCA membership or gifting a membership to a neighbor on your street.

Last year, our neighborhood came together with **52 members** supporting the Old Spring Branch Civic Association. Right now, we are at **41 members**, and we know we can get back there with a little neighborhood pride and teamwork. Take a look at the chart below and find your street. How many neighbors were members last year, and how can you help get back to that same level of participation?

Your membership helps OSBCA continue advocating for our neighborhood, hosting events, and supporting the quality of life we all value. Thank you for showing love to Old Spring Branch and for encouraging others to do the same. Together, we keep our community strong.

2025-2026 Membership (41 total)													
Amelia	Antoine	Cedel	Counter Point	Hammerly	Harland	Jacquelyn	Johanna	Silverbonnet	Thonig	Todd	Turquoise	Woodvine	Other
0	3	3	10	2	2	2	0	1	3	0	2	11	2
2024-2025 Membership (52 total)													
1	2	2	12	3	7	2	1	0	3	5	2	12	
2022-2023 Membership (55 total)													
2	3	3	12	2	4	2	3	1	3	1	3	15	

PAY YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP ONLINE!



Step one:

Visit OldSpringBranch.org and click on “[Membership](#)” on the main menu.

Step two:

Select the type of membership you fall under and then click the button under it that says “Pay with PayPal”.

Step three:

If you don’t currently have a PayPal account, you can log on using “Checkout as Guest”

Step four:

Fill out the information so you can make the payment.

PREVENTING CRIMES OF OPPORTUNITY

Help keep our community safe by taking simple precautions:

- ✓ **Lock your car doors** and keep valuables out of sight.
- ✓ **Close your gates and garage doors** when not in use.
- ✓ **Turn on your porch lights at night** to deter suspicious activity.

A few small steps can make a big difference in keeping OSB a secure and welcoming place to live!

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Your safety starts with awareness! Stay alert and report any suspicious activity to law enforcement. If the police aren’t aware of what’s happening in our neighborhood, they won’t know to patrol the area.

- Non-Emergency Police Number:** 713-884-3131
- Emergency? Call 911!**

Together, we can keep OSB safe!

WHY DEED RESTRICTIONS MATTER IN OLD SPRING BRANCH

Committee of Five

We want all residents to understand why we are so persistent about upholding deed restrictions in our community. These guidelines exist to protect Old Spring Branch and the quality of life we all value.

What Are Deed Restrictions?

Deed restrictions are written agreements that limit or regulate activities that may take place on property within a subdivision. These restrictions are recorded in the real property records of the county in which the property is located. They are private agreements and are binding on every property owner within a subdivision. When a property is purchased in a deed-restricted area, all future owners automatically become parties to these agreements.

Why Deed Restrictions Exist

One of the primary purposes of deed restrictions is to preserve the residential character of a subdivision by preventing commercial or industrial uses. For those who prefer to live in a strictly residential neighborhood, deed restrictions are both valuable and desirable.

Deed restrictions may legally prohibit certain types of businesses from operating out of a home. In areas of Houston without deed restrictions, a property owner may be free to operate a commercial business within a neighborhood. For this reason, deed restrictions are powerful tools that help preserve the character and stability of a subdivision.

Your Responsibility as an Owner or Renter

Every homeowner should receive a copy of the deed restrictions at the time of purchase. Renters are also responsible for complying with the subdivision's deed restrictions. Realtors and landlords should provide buyers and renters with the "laws of the land," meaning the restrictions that apply within the neighborhood.

As a buyer or renter, you should insist on receiving a copy of the deed restrictions from your realtor or landlord. Unfortunately, OSBCA has been made aware that this does not always happen.

How to Obtain a Copy of Your Deed Restrictions

If you did not receive a copy of your deed restrictions at closing, or if you have not received one from the Deed Restriction Committee after receiving a violation letter, you may obtain a copy through one of the following sources:

- Harris County Clerk's Office: 713-755-6411
- Harris County Clerk website: www.cclerk.hctx.net
- OSBCA website: OldSpringBranch.org (Look for your deed restrictions by subdivision.)

Staying in Compliance

Please take time to read your deed restrictions and ensure compliance. Before beginning any new construction or remodeling, contact an OSB Civic Association board member, whose contact information can be found in *The Bugler* newsletter.

We are striving to make Old Spring Branch a desirable community where you enjoy living. Be proud of your subdivision, follow the deed restrictions, and help protect what matters to all of us. Your property value is important.

WINTER LANDSCAPING TIPS FOR HOUSTON WEATHER

Nino Roman

Winter is not over. January and February freezes still keep Houston on alert. While we experienced some summer-like temperatures in December, history tells us there is still cold weather ahead. Houston is known to have freezing temperatures in both January and February, and I suspected we would see at least one or two hard freezes this season. I hope you were, or are, prepared.

One important reminder: be careful not to trim your plants too soon. Below are a few things you can do during periods of freezing weather to help protect your landscaping.

Protecting Your Plants During Freezes

- **Do not trim plants too early.**
Do not trim, clean, or remove plants that may look dead. Just because the foliage is dead does not mean the plant itself is dead. Wait until spring to see if new growth appears.
- **Water before a freeze.**
Give your plants a good soak before freezing weather arrives. This helps insulate the root ball and can improve the plant's chances of survival. Be sure to cover any tropical or fruit trees and annual plants.
- **Insulate with leaves.**
Create small mounds around plants using fallen tree leaves. This provides extra insulation during cold nights.
- **Cover sensitive plants.**
Use fabric or weed barrier material to cover plants and help retain warmth during freezing temperatures.

Protecting Pipes During Cold Weather

I am sorry if any of you experienced pipe breakage during recent freezes. Every situation is different, but I recommend insulating pipes, turning off the water, and draining the pipes when possible. If you are unable to turn off the water, allow faucets to drip. Do what you know works best for your home.

Freezing weather always comes with some uncertainty. We are, after all, warm-weather folks.

A Word of Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity, once again, to thank Bill Cox and LMC for their consistent care of the OSB esplanades at the Wirt Road and Antoine entrances. Old Spring Branch truly appreciates your many years of support and dedication.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Monday, March 2, 2026

Got ideas or suggestions? Send them to sybilsanchez@yahoo.com

Subject line: OSBCA

The Old Spring Branch Civic Association publishes the Old Spring Branch Bugler monthly. OSB serves the area between Wirt & Antoine, north of Long Point and southwest of Todd. Material in this publication may not be reproduced without permission from the OSBCA communications committee. Due to time and space not all letters or articles may appear. Any correspondence must include your name and address (which may be withheld upon request). Please print or type any submissions. For advertising information or to submit articles, mail to: OSBCA Bugler; P. O. Box 55172, Houston Texas 77255-5172

RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH PICK UP

-2026 SCHEDULE-

MONTH	RECYCLING <i>(Every other Friday)</i>	HEAVY TRASH <i>(Fourth Thursday of the month)</i>
February 2026	☐ 2/6 ☐ 2/20	☐ JUNK Thurs., 2/26
March 2026	☐ 3/6 ☐ 3/20	☐ TREE Thurs., 3/26
April 2026	☐ 4/3 ☐ 4/17	☐ JUNK Thurs., 4/23
May 2026	☐ 5/1 ☐ 5/15 ☐ 5/29	☐ TREE Thurs., 5/28
June 2026	☐ 6/12 ☐ 6/26	☐ JUNK Thurs., 6/25
July 2026	☐ 7/10 ☐ 7/24	☐ TREE Thurs., 7/23
August 2026	☐ 8/7 ☐ 8/21	☐ JUNK Thurs., 8/27
September 2026	☐ 9/4 ☐ 9/18	☐ TREE Thurs., 9/24
October 2026	☐ 10/2 ☐ 10/16 ☐ 10/30	☐ JUNK Thurs., 10/22
November 2026	☐ 11/13 ☐ 11/27	☐ TREE Fri., 11/27
December 2026	☐ 12/11 ☐ 12/25	☐ JUNK Thurs., 12/24
January 2027	☐ 1/8 ☐ 1/22	☐ TREE Thurs., 1/28

*For most accurate date, visit the Solid Waste Management Dept. 's website at HoustonTX.gov/solidwaste/holiday.

KNOW WHAT TO RECYCLE: WHAT GOES IN THE GREEN BIN

YES! You Can Recycle These:

- **Metal & Cans:** Aluminum and tin cans such as soup, vegetable, fruit, and coffee cans. *(Be sure to empty and rinse.)*
- **Cartons:** Both gable-top and shelf-stable food and beverage cartons like milk, juice, soup, and soy milk cartons. *(Empty and rinse.)*
- **Glass:** Bottles, jugs, and jars only. *(Empty and rinse.)*
- **Paper:** Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, and office paper.
- **Cardboard:** Flattened cardboard boxes and cereal boxes. *(Remove all packing materials.)*
- **Plastic:** Bottles, tubs, and jugs numbered #1–5 and #7. Examples include water and soda bottles, milk jugs, yogurt cups, margarine tubs, detergent, and shampoo bottles. *(Empty and rinse.)*

NO! Keep These Out of the Green Bin:

- Batteries or electronics
- Shredded paper
- “Tanglers” such as cords, hoses, wires, and clothing
- Food, liquids, trash, or *bagged* recycling
- Furniture or household goods
- Scrap wood or scrap metal *(no helium tanks)*
- Yard waste

A special thank you to the following businesses/organizations for their advertisement in our monthly newsletter, The Bugler.



Brubaker and Associates
real estate appraisers and consultants

Mike Brubaker, SRA
President

7626 Hammerly
Houston, Texas 77055

713-464-4666 | 713-464-4669 fax
brubakerandassociates.com




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- Buying / Compra
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www.RosMachorro.com

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for Seniors 55 years +**

2056 Antoine Dr. (713) 683-6900
Houston, Texas 77055 (713) 263-1424 Fax



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Mabee WholeLife® Service Center
1905 Jacquelyn Dr. Houston, TX 77055

Offering community based care to Spring Branch East residents that includes:

- CASE MANAGEMENT
- YOUTH PROGRAMS
- COUNSELING SERVICES
- FEDERALLY-QUALIFIED
- RECOVERY SERVICES
- HEALTH CLINIC
- FOOD ASSISTANCE
- SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

For more information call 713-328-1963
WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG








Address: 1911 Antoine Dr
Houston, Texas 77055
Tel: (713) 683-3817
Fax: (713) 683-7077
E-mail: admissions@samtech.edu

We appreciate your support of our Old Spring Branch Civic Association!

*If you would like to advertise, please contact Gerry Thielemann at 713-682-9634.
You may also reach out via email at sybilsanchez@yahoo.com.*

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

FEBRUARY 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3	4	5	6 	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>
15	16	17 PIP, 7p	18	19	20 	21 <i>May put out Heavy Trash</i>
22	23	24	25	26 HEAVY TRASH: JUNK	27 	28
1	2	3	4	5	6 	7

Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meetings – Third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Faith Center Chapel, 8009 Long Point.

<u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u>	<u>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u>
OFFICERS	
President: Jo Lightsey 713-681-0560	Advertising: Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634
Vice President: Loretta Nalley 832-868-8751	Beautification: Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560
Secretary: Linda Whatley 713-681-0560	Citizens on Patrol (COP): Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088
Treasurer: Virginia Lehman 832-748-8088	Communications: Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331
STREET REPRESENTATIVES	Deed Restrictions: <i>Committee of Five</i> Contact: 713-681-0560
Antoine: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---	In Touch: Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634
Counter Point & Turquoise: <i>Anonymous</i>	Landscaping: Nino Roman, 832-877-4701
Harland & Todd: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---	Membership: Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751
Jacquelyn/ E. Hammerly: Mike McGeehon 713-922-0116	Social: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---
Johanna: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---	
Silverbonnet, Cedel & W. Hammerly: Eric Schmidt 281-840-1521	
Thonig: Sybil Sanchez 832-722-2331	
Woodvine: Rosario Machorro 713-391-6355	