



# WootenNews

Serving the Wooten community

Fall 2012

Wooten Neighborhood Association • Box 10171 • Austin, Texas 78766 • blog: [wootenna.com](http://wootenna.com)

## **Next WNA meeting** *Monday, Nov 12, 7:00pm*

new room: Redeemer Lutheran Church library  
1500 W. Anderson (Burrell Drive side)

### **More inside:**

- Directions to the meeting
- Wooten online groups
- Burnet tree planting
- Wooten weather

### **President's letter: parks**

Our neighborhood is blessed to have six acres of parkland at Wooten Park. As other surrounding neighborhoods look to acquire land for a pocket park (Crestview) or come together to care for and improve an existing park (Brentwood), many neighbors are asking me what we can do to make Wooten Park a better, more active destination for area residents.

This month, I am talking to area volunteers from Crestview and Brentwood, leaders from Sustainable Neighborhoods of North Austin, and representatives from the City of Austin about advocating for North Central Austin parks.

Interested in helping make Wooten Park great? Neighbors have suggested picnic pavilions, restrooms, landscape improvements, permanent walking paths, and many other really great ideas. We need a group of enthusiastic neighbors to make any or all of these ideas a reality.

To help, sign up online at [wootenna.com](http://wootenna.com).

—Joshua Merritt  
*President, Wooten Neighborhood Association*

### **WNA dues at work**

The Wooten Neighborhood Association Watch group worked with the City of Austin to install eight Crime Watch signs around the periphery of the Wooten neighborhood in August. Old signs that had grown rusty or faded were removed.



This project was funded from the \$5.00 annual dues donated by your neighbors.

A neighborhood association is only as strong as its membership. Please consider supporting WNA this year. Membership runs from Oct 1, 2012 through Sept 30, 2013.

**SUPPORT AND SPEAK UP.** WNA members have plenty to talk about—join the conversation. Bring \$5 to the next meeting or mail it to: **WNA / Box 10171 / Austin TX 78766**. Annual membership period is Oct 1 - Sept 30.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood interests and concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Wooten address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Virtuosity

The fastest way to learn what's going on around the neighborhood is participation in related **online groups**. Recently, neighbors have discussed low water pressure, suspicious activities, improvements to Wooten Park, and more.

Join the conversation:

- *Wooten Yahoo Group*:  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wootenna/>
- *Wooten on Facebook*:  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/wootenneighborhood/>
- *Wooten NextDoor*:  
<https://wooten.nextdoor.com/>

All of these groups require approval to join, which helps keep the membership limited to neighbors and, occasionally, local businesses and excludes most spammers and outside advertisers.

As participation increases in these online groups, our neighborhood can become more cohesive and better informed, and decrease its dependence on this printed newsletter for sharing important news.

## Join the Nov 10 tree planting on Burnet

- Saturday, Nov. 10 (Rain date or follow-up if needed is Saturday, Dec 1.)
- 9am - noon
- Meet at Shu Shu's parking lot, corner of Burnet and Ohlen
- Wear sturdy shoes and bring a pick axe or shovel if you have one

The goal is to plant about 35 trees on Burnet from Anderson to 183, and 20 trees on 2222.

The Burnet Road trees will create a forest in support of the rapid bus station (coming 2014), restaurants, nearby apartments, the Steck Library, Burnet Middle School, and other nearby destinations.

When these trees are in place, the five-year project to plant 100 trees in the area will be complete—in only 2½ years! Of course, even after the planting, the trees will need watering and maintenance.

Read more about neighborhood tree planting and find more ways to become involved at the Sustainable Neighborhoods of North Central Austin website: [snaustin.org](http://snaustin.org).

## The meeting has moved

Starting in November, neighborhood meetings move to the **library** at Redeemer. It's in the same building as the cafeteria, the former meeting site, but closer to Anderson Road.

Best way to reach the library from the parking lot on Burrell is to walk through the gates on either end of that building into the central courtyard/playground, and through the double doors at the south end of the cafeteria. Turn left into the library.

## Recycling Q&A

- Q:** I've seen shredded paper in plastic bags in the blue recycling cans. Is this correct?  
**A:** No, shredded paper should be bagged in a **paper** (not plastic) bag; otherwise it is treated as litter.
- Q:** Can I recycle greeting cards?  
**A:** Greeting cards and brightly colored envelopes can be recycled. Cards adorned with glitter or foil cannot be recycled.
- Q:** Can we recycle styrofoam since the city doesn't take it?  
**A:** Depends what it's used for.

Clean and dry foam products are accepted at no charge by **Texas Disposal Systems**, (800) 375-8375, at their gatehouse (3016 FM 1327 in Creedmoor). TDS is east of I-35 between Brodie and Buda. Gatehouse hours are Mon-Sat 7am - 7pm.

By "clean" they mean no tape, paper or other non-styro materials stuck to the foam. To-go containers and cups must be washed, free of food (including greasy residue), and *dry* (serious emphasis on that point).

The old Cycled Plastics plant nearby had to throw away a lot of the customer-donated food containers because they weren't clean enough to recycle.



## Wooten weather

Head for the middle of Wooten and look up. Weather is being watched here.

The Wooten neighborhood weather station, run by Victor Engel, records rainfall, temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, barometric pressure, and solar and ultraviolet radiation, and the data feeds several Internet weather sources.

As you walk down Ripplewood Drive, you can see the anemometer and weather vane mounted on a pole attached to the apex of the roof. The solar sensors and rain gauge are located in the back yard. The barometer is located inside the house.

The station is a self-contained, battery-operated unit that continues operation even if the neighborhood loses electricity. It uses a wireless Davis Vantage Pro2, a recommended weather station for home use and the most accurate at the price point.

Data is fed to various places on the Internet, such as Weather Underground. Enter 78757 into the search box at [wunderground.com](http://wunderground.com) and select the station called *Allandale North/Wooten*.

Data is also sent to CWOP (Citizens' Weather Observation Program). There, the data is compared to surrounding stations and rated as to quality. Tools are available to directly compare values from neighboring stations. Additionally, data is made available to NOAA, which uses the information to help out in their forecasts.

Victor's weather station also feeds the weather applet on [Allandale neighborhood's website](#).

Victor also accumulates rainfall data using a manual gauge. The data is sent to [cocorahs.org](http://cocorahs.org), which is now a nationwide program where citizens collect rainfall data and report at roughly the same time each day.

Victor's weather links:

- Weather Underground:  
<http://tinyurl.com/wootenweather>
- Citizens' Weather Observation Program:  
<http://tinyurl.com/wootencwop>
- NOAA pinpoint forecast graphs for Wooten:  
<http://tinyurl.com/wootennoaa>
- Manual rainfall collection database:  
<http://cocorahs.org>

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## Is that feral cat hanging out in your yard again?

The solution is TNR: trap, neuter, return. It's pretty easy to do, and it's needed and appreciated because Wooten has a large population of homeless cats...and plenty of kind souls who feed them.

This is a good time of year to trap, while the weather is mild and the cats aren't populating.

According to neighbor Megan Zellner, who has been working to reduce Wooten's feral-cat population through TNR, the Austin Humane Society has a well-organized program. We're fortunate that it's nearby for easy drop-off and pickup. Here's how it works:

- Make an appointment with the AHS (information below) for a Tuesday or Wednesday surgery.
- Borrow a trap (for a refundable deposit) from the AHS. Set the trap the night before the appointment using a little tuna as a lure.
- Drop off the cat between 6:30am and 8:30am on appointment day.
- Pick it up by 6:30pm to return it to its colony.

For an appointment or information, visit the Humane Society's website at <http://is.gd/AHSferal> or call Leticia Stivers at AHS at 685-0111.

Contact Megan at [maveryzellner@gmail.com](mailto:maveryzellner@gmail.com)



**CleanCut**  
Lawn & Landscape Co.  
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512-650-6006

**Wooten neighborhood special**  
\$30 mow/edge/blow for any average size yard!



**Celebrate Christmas with us!**

Redeemer Choir/Orchestra presents  
**"Sing Choirs of Angels"**  
Saturday, December 8 • 5:30PM  
Sunday, December 9 • 8AM, 9:30AM, 10:45AM  
**Everyone Invited!**  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1500 West Anderson Lane • 459-1500 • Redeemer.net

## Connect with your neighborhood online

Join your neighbors online to stay informed and discuss topics from crime incidents to new local businesses to garage sales.

- Wooten's **blog**: [WootenNA.com](http://WootenNA.com)  
Includes this newsletter, with clickable links!
- Neighborhood **newsgroup**:  
[groups.yahoo.com/group/wootenna/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wootenna/)  
The fastest way to learn and share Wooten info.
- Wooten on **Facebook**: [tinyurl.com/28uoo34](http://tinyurl.com/28uoo34)
- Wooten **Meetup** group:  
[meetup.com/Wooten-Neighborhood-Group/](http://meetup.com/Wooten-Neighborhood-Group/)
- NextDoor: <https://wooten.nextdoor.com/>
- Wooten Elementary **PTA**: [wootenpta.com](http://wootenpta.com)
- What's growing and how we **grow** it in the area:  
[groups.google.com/group/crestview-gardeners](http://groups.google.com/group/crestview-gardeners)
- Items **for sale**, fundraisers and services offered in North Austin neighborhoods, including Wooten:  
[groups.yahoo.com/group/crestview\\_forsale/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crestview_forsale/)
- Weather station **forecast**: [tinyurl.com/36js85](http://tinyurl.com/36js85)
- Wooten **weather** history: [tinyurl.com/csvwfs](http://tinyurl.com/csvwfs)
- What Do I Do With... is an A-to-Z guide to **recycling**, reusing, composting and more.  
[austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do/](http://austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do/)

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1915 Wooten Drive - **JUST SOLD IN 1 DAY!**

1803 Palmwood Cove - **JUST SOLD BEFORE GOING TO MARKET**

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