

THE OAKRIDGE JOURNAL

ORIA EMPHASIS

The Oakridge Ranch Improvement Association is in full swing with the newly elected 2019-2020 Board of Directors:

- Jim Leavesley—President
jamesleavesley@att.net
- Tyler Poli—1st Vice President
tyler.s.poli@gmail.com
- Sam Kelly—2nd Vice President
lkelly9504@yahoo.com
- Amy Hardy—Treasurer
amyhardytx@gmail.com
- Deanna Jeske—Secretary
deannajeske@yahoo.com



Save the Date!
Oakridge Neighborhood Night Out
(sponsored by ORIA)
October 12, 2019

School's Starting This Week! Children & Teens depend on motorists to know the law and drive safely around school buses.

Texas School Bus Law (Per Texas Department of Transportation)

- Stop for flashing red lights on a school bus, regardless of which direction you're headed
- Continue your trip once the bus has moved, the flashing lights stop flashing or the bus driver signals it's okay to pass
- Violations can lead to a \$1,000 fine

Safety Tips for Motorists

- Obey the posted speed limit
- Keep an eye on children gathered at bus stops
- Watch for children who might dart across the street to catch the bus
- Pay Attention - Put away your cellphone



Beauty of an Oakridge Ranch Summer

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ORIA Board Meetings are the 2nd Sunday each month, 2 PM (except December) at the Community Center. Landowners are welcome!



OAKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Important Auxiliary Meeting, August 24th at 9 AM at the Community Center. Make time to attend & join the fun. We do need additional members. So come join us on the 24th!

The OVFD Auxiliary is looking forward to our Third Annual **Chili Cook-Off to be held on November 9th, 2019. SAVE the DATE!** More information will be out soon regarding the chili cook-off and all the fun happenings associated with that! We're having a raffle of one item only! A BadBoy Zero-Turn Mower! And we're looking for chili cooking teams!! So watch for updates via email & newsletter.

Burn Ban in Effect

There's a county-wide burn ban in effect. No open fires are allowed by judge's order. No brush pile burning of any kind is allowed. Also, be sure equipment such as mowers, tractors, shredders, hay bailers, etc. are lubricated to reduce sparks. Several fires in Colorado County have been reported this year due to bearings creating sparks and causing fires.

You can prevent forest fires!



Know our equipment!

OVFD Pumper ("1023" to all of us at OVFD) - pictured to the left. A pumper does just that.....it pumps water. It can also carry hoses, tools and various equipment as needed by our department.

Where is Your 911 Number?

Time has come to discuss a matter very important to your local Volunteer Fire Department. Your rural address. You know where it is. 1/2 mile past the big dip in the road. Turn left at the first white picket fence and go to the end of the road. Well, your emergency responders need more. The FASTEST way for US to find YOU is for you to have large, clear, CONSISTENT numbers at the entrance to your property.

Colorado County uses green, 4 inch tall address plates as their standard. This is the preferred way to mark your property. The EMS and Fire crews look for these first. They're reflective, bright and consistent. These number plates are available from the county for \$10 each. You'll have to stop by 305 Radio Rd. next time you're going to Columbus. That's the Colorado County EMS Station 1 on Hwy 71 just south of Hwy 90. End of the hall, turn left. Sydney Smith will take your order, verify your address in the county system and get your plate ordered. They'll call when it comes in. SOME of you will need 2. If you live on a street that may result in 1st responders coming from one direction and EMS coming from another, to ENSURE the speediest response is to make your address visible from both directions.

If you're thinking, "I live a mile from Weimar, all my help comes from that direction." Unless Medic 5 (Weimar) is on a call already, and you are waiting on Medic 1 from Columbus. The same goes for out in the county. You may get a unit from Eagle Lake. Or Weimar. They could come from either direction. And 1st responders may come from either direction. As far as mounting them, the preferred placement is placed so that it is visible from the direction of travel on the road. Preferably on a mailbox, both sides if necessary. This allows responding personnel to see an address while approaching. If the address is mounted on a fence or gate parallel to the road, we have to slow down to find the numbers somewhere on your fence. This will delay response to you or your neighbor. While you're at it, if you already have the green plates, properly mounted, visible while coming from either direction, please make sure the flowers or vines you planted around your mailbox haven't obscured your numbers. Your local Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement Departments will thank you!



OVFD BOARD

Vernon Wallace, President
R. C. Lumpkin, Vice-President
Wayne Wolfford, Fire Chief
Dane Stewart, Asst. Fire Chief
Gary LaVergne, Secretary/Treasurer

**OVFD Mailing Address: 1904-A Oakridge Road,
Weimar, TX, 78962**

oakridgefiredepartment@gmail.com



HERD COMPOSITION FORMS & DEER SPOT-LIGHT CENSUS:

As part of an MLD, all landowners are required to complete a herd composition form and submit it to those tallying the numbers for our MLD. Along with the spot-light census, these help TPWD to determine how many doe tags our MLD receives for the 2019-2020 Whitetail Season. So be filling out your forms and have those ready to drop into **ORWMA's mailbox at 1904-B Oakridge Road, Weimar, TX 78962**. Or you may drop it in the mail to the same address.

HUMMINGBIRD MIGRATION

The late Summer/Fall Hummingbird Migration is just starting! Join in by putting out homemade hummingbird food and invite them in! A safe, healthy recipe from Texas Parks & Wildlife is:

Mix 1 part sugar with 4 parts water (for example, 1/2 cup of sugar with 2 cups of water) until the sugar is dissolved. Do not add red dye. Fill your hummingbird feeders with the sugar water and place outside. Extra sugar water can be stored in a refrigerator. *[The Hummers enjoy cooled hummingbird food in this heat and they enjoy playing in a sprinkler!]*

This recipe is also safe for your butterfly feeders. Enjoy! Turn your game cameras on at your hummingbird feeders!



Pictures from "Hog Busters" training (above & left). These volunteers are checking, baiting and resetting traps, as well as reporting trapped hogs and traps that need maintenance. For more info, contact Douglas Mason.

Hog Count	
2018	YTD 2019
580	576
10 traps	30 traps

Dates to Remember

ORWMA Board Meeting: 9/8 at 9 AM

Food Plot Seminar: 9/21 at 9 AM, Community Center

Texas Youth Hunt: 11/15-17
More Information Coming Soon

2019 ORWMA OFFICERS

President: Earl Fly
 Vice-President: Steve Jaap
 Secretary/Treasurer: Angie Konvicka
 Events: Jean Herring
 Turkey: Keith Peters
 Predator Control: Douglas Mason
 Birding: *(vacant)*
 Habitat: Vernon Wallace
 Whitetail Deer: Jerry Rogers

ANNUAL DEER PERMIT MEETING

September 15th, 9 AM at the Oakridge Community Center
You may pay your ORWMA Dues that day (due on Jan 1 each year): \$20/year
Speaker: Mark Lange, TPWD Colorado County Wildlife Biologist



www.orwma.org Also join us on Facebook!
oakridgewildlifemanagement@gmail.com