



Oakridge News

www.oakridgena.org

August 2025, V33,8



Board of Directors Update

Yvette Bonavita, President



Dear Oakridge Neighbors,

As summer winds down, August brings an exciting and important time for families in our community—**back-to-school season!** Whether you're a parent, grandparent, or neighbor, we can all play a role in helping our children start the school year safely and successfully.

Please remember that **school zones will soon be active** and **school buses will be back in our neighborhood** during early morning and afternoon hours. Let's all do our part to drive carefully, stay alert, and help keep our children safe as they head to and from school.

This month, we also invite **every household in Oakridge** to consider **joining the Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA)**. Your involvement helps strengthen our community, protect property values, and keep Oakridge looking its very best. With your support, we can continue building a vibrant and connected neighborhood where everyone feels welcome.

Board of Directors Update Continued

In line with our commitment to sustainability and budget-conscious operations, we are transitioning to an **electronic-only newsletter**. Each month, you'll find our latest updates available at <https://oakridgena.org>. We are also **revamping our website** to make accessing the newsletter and other resources easier than ever.

Stay connected with us by joining our [Facebook community at Oakridge Neighborhood Garland TX](#), where we'll post timely updates, community events, and opportunities to get involved. Make sure to say hello to our dedicated board members—they're eager to meet you and introduce themselves during our outreach efforts this month on August 6th!

Thank you for your continued support, and best wishes to all our students, teachers, and families as we kick off another school year.

Warmly,

Yvette Bonavita
President, Oakridge Neighborhood Association

Featured Articles

Membership

Cecile LaBossiere

Oakridge Membership–Supporter Campaign

We are so grateful to our residents and neighbors who generously donated to support the Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA) this year! I am continually thankful to everyone who has participated and continues to stand behind ONA's mission.

A Special Recognition to Our:

Oak Level Supporters — \$500+

- Gary Hufstedler
- Dr. Janie Carpenter
- Bob & Ann Whitehead
- Marla & John Finco

Maple Level Supporters — \$250+

- Larry & Susan Tomson
- Alvin & Martha Shuttlesworth
- Tom & Libby Morse
- Bruce & Pam Trutna
- Thorbjorn & Dordie Redaelli
- Maggie Turnbow
- David Parrish
- Fred Gardenour & Tess Biddick
- Stephanie & Joshua Lamb
- John & Ginger Sholden

Crape Myrtle Supporters — \$100+

More than 100 neighbors contributed at the Crape Myrtle Level—thank you all!

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

I'd also like to share a quick update on our 2025–2026 membership year: We're still working to wrap things up and hope every supporter renews their commitment to ONA. We've reached out to everyone on the "Not Renewed" list and hope to reduce the 48 non-renewals to **zero!**

Membership Continued

Summary of Supporters:

District #	Supporter (2025-2026)	Not Renewed	Not Supporting	Total Households	% Supporting
1	51	5	129	185	28%
2	53	12	89	154	34%
3	14	3	124	141	10%
4	50	10	91	151	33%
5	22	5	163	190	12%
6	23	4	154	181	13%
7	31	9	124	164	19%
Total	244	48	874	1166	21%

Annual Supporter Total – History

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Jan		1		1	1
Feb	8	5	2	0	2
Mar	15	4	8	0	5
Apr	27	3	36	92	96
May	109	99	94	94	125
Jun	47	63	71	35	57
Jul	43	41	38	54	47
Aug		4	11	7	11
Sep		18	8	7	8
Oct		10	9	0	5
Nov		2	1	2	2
Dec		0	0	1	1
Total	249	250	278	293	360

Membership Flags

To show our appreciation, your ONA Membership Flag will be delivered by your district director or a volunteer.



Find your District Director at

<https://oakridgena.org/seven-districts-of-oakridge/>.

If you have not received your 2025-2026 Flag, email Membership at oakridgemembership@gmail.com.

Financial Report

Sarah Freeman, Treasurer



All 2024-2025 financial reports are accessible online at www.oakridgena.org/financials-main.

You can click the link above or locate it on the "Resident Resources" page under "Financials."

For any inquiries, please contact us at treasury@oakridgena.org.

Featured Articles

Pickle Ball at Duck Creek

Scott Youzva, Resident



Rally into August: Pickleball Fun at Duck Creek!

Summer is sizzling, and so is the pickleball scene at Duck Creek! Whether you're a seasoned "dinker" or just learning to "rally," it's the perfect time to step onto the court and get in the game.

Lessons Available This Month

Beginner and intermediate pickleball lessons are being offered throughout August at the Hollabaugh Recreation Center in Garland. No matter your skill level, there's a spot for you to learn, grow, and connect.

Got Questions?

Wondering about your "third shot drop" or aiming for that perfect "smash"? Text us anytime at 972-816-5116—we're happy to help with tips, info, and anything in between.

Get Connected

Don't "lob" this chance—local groups from Oakridge are already playing together! If you'd like to join in, just reach out and we'll match you with a group that fits your pace and style.


Court Access Info

Courts are available seven days a week, from sun-up to sunset, at just \$3 per person. Affordable fun and friendly faces make this one of the season's best ways to stay active.

Let's "serve" up a summer to remember—grab your paddle and come make some great memories with neighbors and friends. We'll see you courtside!

Welcome New Residents

Welcome to Oakridge! Where Summer Hospitality Is in Full Bloom

 We're delighted to welcome all new residents and renters to Oakridge—your new home in a neighborhood filled with warmth, charm, and community spirit.

Welcome New Residents Continued

New Here? We've Got You Covered

Every new resident receives a cheerful Welcome Bag, filled with summer goodies from the City of Garland, helpful tips about settling in, and key information about the Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA). Questions or just want to say hello? Reach us anytime at info@oakridgena.org—we'd love to hear from you!

Get Involved, Stay Connected

Joining the ONA is quick and easy at www.oakridgena.org/join. Your participation helps enhance Oakridge year-round—supporting events, landscaping efforts, and the welcoming environment we all enjoy.

About the Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA)

Since 1992, ONA has been a 501(c)(4) nonprofit dedicated to maintaining the beauty of our neighborhood—from nine attractive entryways to lush shared spaces. While we don't manage private property issues, our voluntary membership is crucial to sustaining these community-wide initiatives. Annual household dues are just \$60, and the fiscal year runs June 1 through May 31. Find more details under the "Resident Resources" section of our website.

Discover Your District

Oakridge includes 1,166 homes divided into Districts based on street location. Each District is led by a dedicated ONA Director who helps organize local efforts and answer questions. Visit "Find Your District" on our site to locate yours.

Perimeter Wall Care—What You Should Know

ONA membership dues help cover landscaping and maintenance along the perimeter walls. Homeowners with back-facing properties are responsible for repairs or replacements if needed. Details can be found under the "Perimeter Brick Wall" section online.

Welcome Again!

We're thrilled you've joined our community. August in Oakridge is packed with sunshine, neighborly spirit, and opportunities to get involved. Whether it's walking the neighborhood, attending events, or simply sharing a wave across the yard—welcome home!

Announcements and Events



City of Garland

UPCOMING
EVENTS

Click the link/Scan QR Code
www.visitgarlandtx.org/p/events



ONA members are warmly invited to share their special announcements—including celebrations, anniversaries, birthdays, and accomplishments—by emailing them to...

communications@oakridgena.org

Community Reports & News

June 2025 Crime Report

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergencies: 972-485-4840

Graffiti Removal: City of Garland Code

Enforcement: 972-485-6400



- To help keep the neighborhood safe, please report any concerns the community should be aware of to safety@oakridgena.org.
- Dial 9-1-1 for Police, Ambulance, or Fire services. A police emergency includes any situation involving a crime in progress, an imminent threat to life, bodily injury, or significant property damage or loss (e.g., an ongoing fight or assault, or a burglary in progress at a home or business).

Oakridge Select Incident Report (Source: <http://www.garlandpolice.com/396/Crime-Statistics-Maps>)

Incident	Date Reported- Incident Timing	Address
UNAUTHORIZED USE MOTOR VEHICLE- (CRIME A)	06/04/2025; 09:00 AM	24XX GOLDEN OAK SDR

A constant reminder... Please lock your car and remove valuables – especially your guns and keys. If you can, put your car in the garage. Almost all unauthorized use motor vehicle and theft from vehicles were unlocked with keys inside – don't make us an easy target!

Continue to be watchful neighbors. Addition of outdoor security lights, cameras, being outdoors walking etc., all help make our community less inviting to potential criminals. It also helps to get out and meet your neighbors.

Report any suspicious activity to the non-emergency number at **972-485-4840**:

- ☑ **Focus on behavior:** What was the person doing that made you suspicious.
- ☑ **Details matter:** Hair, clothing (head to toe), identifying marks. Race or gender alone is not enough.
- ☑ **Vehicle:** Make, Model, Color, Direction of travel, License Plate.
- ☑ **Location & Time:** Address, date, time.

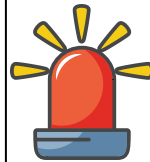
June Crime Report Continued...

If you have security camera video, please sign up at Garland Video Crime Watch Survey or email Officer Murphy at MurphyJ@garlandtx.gov

REMINDER TO SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS YEAR'S OAKRIDGE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT PRESENTED BY OAKRIDGE CRIME WATCH AND THE GARLAND POLICE – OCTOBER 7, 2025. FREE ADMISSION. TIME AND LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED.

We want to welcome our newest member to our Citizens On Patrol group – Ryan Vernon. Ryan began his patrols in July after training with Lee Litton and being approved by our NPO, Officer Jordan Murphy.

Thank you, Ryan, for serving the residents of Oakridge!



GPD Non-Emergency
972-485-4840



The ONA Proudly supports the Garland Police Department Foundation's Support for "First Responders" dealing with Cancer. Click link below for donations or more information

<https://garlandpolicefoundation.org>

Commercial Solicitation § 26.51

The city of Garland requires a Permit for *Commercial Solicitations of Homes*.

Permits can be obtained at the Garland Police Department's Records Unit located at 1891 Forest Lane, Garland, TX 75042.

For more information contact Code Compliance at 972-485-6400. Download the application here: [Solicitation Permit Application \(PDF\)](#)

Community Reports & News

Environmental Joshua Lamb



What beautiful days we've been having—summer is in full swing!

Please be on the lookout for any broken irrigation spots where you see running water. Notify me right away to help us save water and money.

Just FYI, below are the sprinkler run times for your respective entrances:

Diamond Oaks

Timers set for Tuesday & Saturday

Start time: 5:30 a.m.

- Zone 1 – 20 minutes
- All others – 0 minutes

Ridge Oak

Timers set for Tuesday & Saturday

Start time: 5:30 a.m.

- Zone 1 (north bed) – 20 minutes
- Zone 2 (south bed) – 20 minutes
- Zone 3 (both medians) – 15 minutes

Laurel Oaks

Timers set for Tuesday & Saturday

Start time: 4:30 a.m.

- Zone 1 (east bed) – 10 minutes
- Zone 2 (middle bed) – 15 minutes
- Zone 3 (west bed) – 10 minutes

The spray heads at Laurel Oaks have been turned down, so no more wet cars—unless there's a strong wind blowing!

Big Oaks

Timers set for Tuesday & Saturday

Start time: 5:30 a.m.

- Zone 1 (Big Oaks bed) – 15 minutes
- Zone 3 (Richland south bed) – 15 minutes
- Zone 6 (Richland north bed) – 15 minutes

If you're aware of any other issues, please let me know. We'll work with Goodbee to get them resolved.

Environmental continued

We'll be meeting with the landscape vendor soon regarding our ONA Vitality Grant, and we'll have a clearer idea of when we can begin work on our entrances. Expect more information in the next update.

And most importantly—a big thank you to all our neighborhood residents who pick up trash and help keep Oakridge looking great during their daily walks. We truly appreciate your efforts!

Thanks again for your continued support—it means a lot.

2025-2026 Board of Directors

Officers

President, Yvette Bonavita	214-734-2186
Vice President, Megan Vernon	806-281-7474
Secretary, Vickie Litton	972-762-2805
Treasurer, Sarah Freeman	214-927-1148

District Directors

District 1, Emma Stevens	214-477-3151
District 2, Charles Leonard	972-619-9310
District 3, Jackie Reynolds	469-649-5799
District 4, Oliver Harter	214-663-8862
District 5, Kendra Herod	469-652-2383
District 6, Mike Devanney	314-440-4350
District 7, Joetta Harris	469-955-1513

Committees

Communications, Star Toups	469-371-3222
Crime & Safety, Lee Litton	972-762-0938
Environmental, Joshua Lamb	682-558-5528
Events, Jillian Henderson	903-312-2125
Membership, Cecile LaBossiere	972-896-9413

Community Reports & News

City of Garland Development Al Raymond III, Managing Director Development Services

City of Garland

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES INTRODUCTION

The Development Services Team consists of three departments:

- Planning and Development
- Code Compliance
- Building Inspections



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Nabila Nur serves as the department's Director, leading a team of 10 full-time employees. This department guides land use, zoning, and development throughout the city in accordance with the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan. The current plan, Envision Garland, was adopted in 2012, and the team is currently working on its update, Garland Forward.

Additionally, the department facilitates Pre-Submittal Meetings, performs Zoning and Garland Development Code (GDC) reviews, and evaluates Subdivision Plats. In the coming year, the team will update the Garland Development Code to ensure alignment with the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan.



CODE COMPLIANCE

Brian Morris serves as the department's Director, overseeing 33 full-time employees. This department enforces property maintenance standards citywide, including those for neighborhoods, commercial areas, multi-family residences, and short-term rentals. Currently, the team is conducting cross-training in preparation for an operational realignment, which will assign Code staff to Council Districts. This new model will launch in January 2026—more information to come.

On June 14, 2025, Code Compliance launched a "Weekend Sweep Pilot" designed to eliminate illegal roadside vendors. The improvements since then have been noticeable. In the coming months, the department will also expand its efforts in community engagement, outreach, and education.

City of Garland Development continued



BUILDING INSPECTIONS

Shawn Weinstein serves as the department's Deputy Building Official, managing a team of 19 full-time employees. The department consists of three divisions: Permits (Front Counter), Plan Review, and Inspections. Building Inspections supports development and construction projects including new builds, renovations, additions, and repairs. The department primarily reviews construction documents, issues building permits, conducts inspections, and grants certificates of occupancy.



Weekend Warrior Enforcement Plan

To combat the rise in illegal merchandise vendors and preserve the aesthetics, property values, and integrity of Garland's commercial corridors, the Code Compliance Department launched the **Weekend Warrior Enforcement Plan**—a pilot program featuring targeted enforcement on Saturday afternoons and evenings.

Now three weeks in, the initiative has already yielded significant results, including the issuance of eight citations and the prevention of five additional vendors from setting up illegally. This effort ensures that vending activity occurs only with proper permits and property owner consent, helping protect both consumers and businesses.

The program, which runs through September, will be evaluated for its effectiveness and potential continuation. We are especially grateful for the support of our partners in the Garland Police Department, who have responded swiftly and professionally when vendors have refused to comply with enforcement actions.

For questions or more information, please email us at codenfc@garlandtx.gov. To report a potential violation, please use **eAssist** via the app or visit GarlandTX.gov.

Community Reports & News

Restore & Respond: Garland's Proactive Code Strategy

The City of Garland is excited to announce the launch of **Restore & Respond**, an initiative beginning August 4th, designed to address residents' needs while enhancing the beauty of our community. Its goal is to improve response and cleanup times for common code violations such as overgrown grass, trash, debris, and minor fence repairs—ensuring a swift, effective, and fair approach for all.

When property maintenance violations are identified, Garland's Code Compliance Department will contact residents to inform them of the issue. If residents are unable to achieve compliance within the allotted time, the City will step in—cleaning up debris, mowing grass, and repairing minor fence violations to maintain the appearance of the neighborhood. Please note: if the City addresses a violation, the associated costs may be passed on to the resident.

However, we understand that not everyone can meet the initial compliance deadline. For residents who need more time, we encourage prompt communication with Code Compliance upon receiving a notice. We are committed to working with you to find a reasonable solution. Additionally, for our senior residents, we will continue offering access to volunteers and City programs as they become available to assist with property maintenance. Together, we can keep Garland beautiful, safe, and enjoyable for all. Let's work hand-in-hand to enhance our community—one step at a time.

For questions or more information, please email us at codenfc@garlandtx.gov. To report a potential violation, please use **eAssist** via the app or visit GarlandTX.gov.



eAssist Garland Contact Portal

What is eAssist? eAssist Garland is an online platform accessible from the City's website, www.GarlandTX.gov, and from a free app that can be downloaded onto any smartphone or tablet. These applications can be found in Google Play or Apple store or follow the instructional below to access now.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS SERVICE IS FOR NON-EMERGENCY SUBMISSIONS. IF THERE IS AN ACTUAL EMERGENCY PLEASE CONTACT EMERGENCY SERVICES THROUGH 911.



How to download the app for use on your smart phones (Apple or Android)

1. Go to the App store on your phone or open your camera to use the corresponding QR Code below and go directly to the eAssist app to download.

For Apple phones it looks like this:



For Android phones it looks like this:



Sidewalk Repairs-City Cost Share Program



In accordance with Garland's City Ordinance, property owners are responsible for maintaining the sidewalks, parkways, curbs, and driveways adjacent to their property, ensuring they remain in safe condition and free from defects or hazards. Qualifying property owners who meet all three eligibility criteria may now be responsible for as little as 10 percent of the cost of sidewalk repairs. Find out program details at:

<https://www.garlandtx.gov/4086/Sidewalk-Participation-Program>

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Connect *with* us!

Oakridge Neighborhood Association Membership

Your ONA dues support:

- landscape beautification
- community events
- safety efforts
- neighborhood improvements
- communication

A small contribution makes a big impact!

ONA Facebook Group

Stay connected with your neighbors! Join the Oakridge Neighborhood Association Facebook group for updates, events, safety alerts, and community conversations—all in one place.



SCAN ME



Thank you - from your Oakridge Neighborhood Association



Boost Your Business with Oakridge!

Reach Over 1,100 Households Every Month

Looking for affordable, high-impact advertising?

Oakridge Neighborhood Association offers prime exposure through our newsletter, website, major events, and Facebook page—helping you connect directly with the Oakridge neighborhood and community.

Oakridge ONA Exclusive Advertising Package - Just \$300/Year

(Prorated per fiscal year, June 1st-May 31st)

✓ *Newsletter & Website Placement*

✓ *Visibility at Key Local Events*

✓ *Promotion on Our Facebook Page (ONA advertisers only)*

Choose a payment plan that fits your budget:

\$300 One-Time | 2 Payments of \$150 | 4 Quarterly Payments of \$75

Ready to Grow Your Reach? Contact us at communications@oakridgena.org

Note: To be featured on our Facebook page, you must be an ONA advertiser. Our team will gladly post any updates or promotions you'd like the community to see! 🚀

Supporting your neighborhood is like investing in your home.

Join The ONA

A neighborhood that is attractive, well maintained, safe, and vibrant can raise the pride of residents and increase the value of the homes in it. The goal of the oakridge Neighborhood Association is to ensure Oakridge is one of those exemplary neighborhoods. The ONA is NOT a mandatory HOA- It relies on the VOLUNTARY support of Oakridge residents to accomplish its mission. **Nothing happens without your support!**



[Click this link or scan QR Code](#) to Join

*Check, Money Order, PayPal (fee), or Credit Card
Most Major Cards Accepted.*

Pay by Mail:
Print Invoice enclosed and Mail check/money order payable to ONA:
PO Box 450145 Garland, TX 75045
District Directors are more than happy to pick up your payment. Just let them know.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$60 | Good Neighbor Level |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$100 | Crepe Myrtle Level |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$250 | Maple Level |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$500+ | Oak Level |

Here is what the organization does:

- Hires qualified landscape contractors to maintain your entrances and perimeter as well as decorate for holidays
- Publishes monthly newsletter and maintains website
- Plans, organizes, and funds local events like national night out
- Partners with our neighborhood officers and citizens on patrol to provide crime prevention and safety
- Welcome new residents including welcome bag
- Hosts general membership meetings
- Coordinates holiday donations from residents to Garland PD and Fire stations
- Attends Quarterly meetings and civic events hosted by the city of Garland
- Much more...

Oakridge News

Oakridge Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 450145
Garland, TX 75045-0145



PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Please print/fill out completely

Your information will be used for ONA communication purposes ONLY and will NEVER be given to anyone.

Street Address _____

Home Phone _____

First Time Supporter

Renewal

Owner

Tenant

Subscribe to ONA emails? Y or N

Contact 1

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Contact 2

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Invoice

The ONA is not a mandatory HOA.
It relies on volunteers and donations.

Support Levels

\$60+ Good Neighbor Level
\$100+ Crepe Myrtle Level
\$250+ Maple Level
\$500+ Oak Level

What the ONA does

Perimeter Maintenance	Events & Social Activities
Seasonal Plantings	General Member Meetings
Monthly Newsletter	Holiday Decorations
ONA Website	Donations to Fire/Police Stations
Crime Prevention & Safety	New Resident Welcome Bags

Contact info@oakridgena.org for comments or to volunteer.

Total Amount Enclosed

\$ _____

Payment Method:

Check/Money Order enclosed

Online Payment - PayPal link
is available on the ONA website
(www.oakridgena.org/join-us)

Mail check or money order (no cash)
and completed form to:

Oakridge Neighborhood Association
PO Box 450145
Garland, TX 75045-0145

An ONA flag will be placed in your front
yard to indicate your support.

Thank you for supporting your neighborhood!