



# THE OAKLEAF

**Winter 2026**

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

~ Edith Sitwell

## 2025 Board Members

**Eddie Lick** President  
903-603-3928

**Rebecca McCarty** Vice Pres.  
(806) 778-8054

**David Langford** Secretary  
972-974-5225

**Mike Swillo** Treasurer  
832-245-9997

**Mike Derossett** Director  
903-603-5352

**Boyd Foster** Director  
214-533-7954

**Kevin Jablonski** Director  
903-681-4269

## Oakwood POA Office

8799 Charlya Dr.  
Athens, TX 75752  
903-677-3924  
oakwoodpoa@aol.com

## POA Office Mgr.

**Robin Foleen**  
Office Hours:  
11:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Mon., Wed., Fri. &  
2nd Sat. of each month  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

## Oakwood Maintenance

**Jerry Sumrall**  
Mon. thru Fri. (hours vary)  
Call or text a Board Member  
for Burn Pit access after  
Maintenance Hours

## Water Bill Questions

**Lauren** - (903) 489-2425  
9am - 4pm  
oakwoodpoawater@yahoo.com

Editor: Chris Foleen  
chfoleen@mvisionstudios.com



## Greetings Oakwood Members!

By Eddie Lick, Oakwood POA Board President

Greetings Oakwood members and I hope you have enjoyed the Fall season and the changing of the leaves and the beautiful colors it brings. As your board president I am happy to report that we have had an uneventful year and Oakwood continues to be in good shape from a financial, physical, and infrastructure perspective. Our water system is in good shape, and we made it through summer without any noticeable changes in our water storage levels or water pressure. We continue to grow but not at the levels we have seen in past years. Other than some minor amendments to the previous C&Rs, our new C&Rs is the first complete overhaul of that document since it originated with the inception of Oakwood development. Thanks to the committee that volunteered many, many hours to get this great accomplishment over the finish line and others that may have been instrumental in getting our new C&Rs passed.

I have enjoyed working with our current board members and some have only been in place a few months. I think that we currently have a caring and dedicated board that will continue to see that our community thrives and acts in the best interest of Oakwood so we can continue to be the best kept secret in East Texas.

With only a few exceptions, our front gate system has functioned as we expect, and we continue to be alert and responsive to any mishaps it may have so it can be back in working order as soon as possible. It appears our weekly entry code system has been utilized by many of our members with them contacting the office or members of the board to obtain the codes as needed. Please remember that you can contact any board member to get the weekly code, and we usually have it by Sunday afternoon for the upcoming week.

I wish you all an enjoyable holiday season and am looking forward to seeing everyone out working in your yards shortly as Spring will be here before you know it.



**Plastic, metal, and bricks - DO NOT belong in the burn pit.**

## **Oakwood Burn Pit Violations**

Oakwood has a burn pit available for owners to dump yard clippings such as leaves, brush, and wood free of metals. The burn pit is not a garbage dump, and materials that will not burn completely or will create toxic fumes or hazards cannot be put in the pit.

Recently there have been violations of the burn pit rules; these violations were inconsiderate and in one case, dangerous. A plastic container with a flammable liquid was left concealed in the pit and exploded in a fireball, endangering Jerry and the surrounding trees. Also, large logs were left in the pit.

Trees or logs more than 10 inches in diameter or 8 feet long will not burn down completely and will also burn or smolder far longer than they can reasonably be supervised, and can be difficult to remove.

Cardboard and paper will loft burning embers into the air that may drift away and create a fire hazard. Treated lumber and plastics create toxic fumes when burned.

**Please observe the burn pit rules!** They are there for your safety.



**More plastic and construction scrap - toxic fume generators.**



### **Stump Grinding**

The Oakwood stump removal project was successfully completed in December, with a total of 301 stumps removed to improve the landscape and remove obstacles. The project extended from December 1st through the 6th, and included 261 stumps removed from residents' land and 40 on POA lots.

### ***In Loving Memory***

WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WONDERFUL  
RESIDENTS WE HAVE LOST THIS PAST YEAR

**Dottie Walton**

Sept 4, 1934 - Feb 17, 2025

**Larry Wortham**

July 6. 1952 - Mar 12, 2025