



# Habitat Happenings

NW Metro Atlanta Habitat for Humanity

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Garden & Yard of the Month

Spring is officially here which means it's time for garden and yard of the month.

We'll begin riding through the neighborhoods in early April, taking pictures and posting signs.



**Spring is in the air!**

If you would like to nominate your garden or yard or if you would like to nominate your neighbor's garden or yard, just send an email to:

[jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org](mailto:jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org)

Remember to include the name and address of the person you are nominating.

As most of you know, it is vitally important to keep up your lawn and yard. Not only does this add to the value of the home you've worked so hard for, it enhances the entire

community and gives everyone something they can be proud of. The really great thing is there are some amazing lawns and gardens throughout the our Habitat communities.

We look forward to seeing what everyone is doing this year to keep their lawns looking beautiful!

Remember that gardens are not necessarily vegetable gardens, they can be rose, flower or even herb gardens. It's up to you to let us know.



### Inside this issue:

Garden & Yard	1
Family Blog	1
Spring Maintenance	2
Tornado Awareness	2
Neighborhood Watch	2

### Special points of interest:

- Lawn & Garden
- Blogging News
- Spring Maintenance
- Be Tornado Aware
- Neighborhood Watch

## Habitat Family Blog

This is to remind you of the NWMA Habitat family blog on-line at: <http://cobbhabitatfamilies.wordpress.com>.

We've replaced our monthly newsletter with this website, it has important information Habitat Families need to know so please

visit it often. The newsletters will only be sent quarterly, so start blogging to keep up with all the latest news.



Please send your current email address to: [jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org](mailto:jhull@nwmetroatlantahabitat.org)

# Spring Home Maintenance

Spring is a great time to do some home maintenance along with your spring cleaning.

## Exterior

**Check** all weather stripping around windows and doors

**Check** house for cracked or peeled paint; caulk and repaint as necessary

**Remove**, clean, and store storm windows (if removable)

**Check** all door and window



**Maintenance check-up for Spring!**

screens; patch or replace as needed; put screens up (if removable type)

**Inspect** roof for missing or deteriorated shingles

**Clean** exterior doors and trim; repaint when necessary

## Interior

**Check** and clean dryer vent, stove

hood, and room fans; change or clean filters on furnace

**Check** seals on refrigerator and freezer; clean refrigerator coils

**Check** for leaky faucets; replace washers as necessary

**Clean** drapes and blinds; repair as needed

**Test** and check batteries on smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

These quick checks can save you time and money!

# April is Tornado Awareness Month

In Georgia, tornadoes have been reported throughout the year, but are most likely to occur from March to May. Tornadoes are also most likely in the mid afternoon to early evening time frame, but can occur any time of the day or night.

**A Tornado Watch** means conditions are favorable for tornadoes to develop, but there is not an imminent threat.

**A Tornado Warning** means a tornado has been detected and an

imminent threat to life and property has developed.

*If a tornado is imminent and you are in a home or building, move to a pre-designated shelter on the lowest floor, such as a basement, or a small interior room closet, bathroom or hallway - and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Remember to always put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.*

*Stay away from windows.*



**Warning Sirens are posted across Cobb**

flooding, and cover your head with your hands.

*Get out of automobiles. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car. If you are caught outside or in a vehicle lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression, but be aware of possible*

# Neighborhood Watch

A neighborhood watch is an organized group of citizens devoted to crime and vandalism prevention within a neighborhood.

Hillcrest West currently has a Neighborhood Watch Group.

We encourage you to start a group in your neighborhood. For information on doing this you can contact

The Cobb County Police Department at 770-499-3900.

You can also sign-up for the PENS (Police Email Notification System) bulletin that the county publishes so that you can be aware of:

- Public Information Releases
- Be On the Lookout Information
- Crime Updates
- Information on Trends

- Crime Prevention
- Rumor Control

Sign-up at:

<http://police.cobbcountyga.gov/pens>

***“Even if you do not have a Neighborhood Watch Group—you can still look out for your neighbor. Dial 911 to report any suspicious activity.”***