

# *CandleRidge*

*Homeowners Association*

*2020-2021*

## Egret Battle Plan

As a homeowner in the CandleRidge Area, we should all be aware of the egret infestation (white cattle egrets) that has occurred for the last three years. If these birds' nest in your trees they will cover your yard, roof, sidewalks, and trees with their excrement, making your home unlivable. (see page 2 of this website for types of damage they do) The following are some defensive measures we can all take to help combat these invasive creatures:

1. Trim your trees to reduce the canopy that allows 30% sunlight.
  - November thru January- Trim your trees, (Live oaks should not be trimmed from February thru July because of Oak wilt.
  - Look for Blue Heron Scouts from February thru March
  - Herons nest and establish rookeries from March thru April
  - Eggs are laid April thru May
  - Full rookeries and hatchlings and fledglings are from April thru October
  - Egrets and herons leave from September thru October
  - Clean up trees and remove any nests from October thru January
  - Nests can be removed anytime if it does not have eggs in it
  - If you need assistance regarding nests/eggs call Fort Worth Animal Control 817-392-1234
2. Install bright shiny streamers and/or the odd looking 'scary eye' balloons in your trees.
3. Remove all old squirrel & egret nests so you can spot any new egret nests.
4. Remove new egret nest before they lay eggs.
5. Install water sprinklers with a hose lead in the upper branches of your trees and run the sprinkler if they try to roost there. (no water allowed after they lay eggs)
6. Utilize noise making devices that will scare them away such as bird canons, bird bangers or screamers, air horns, sonic sound wave devices, banging on pots and pans will scare them off, etc.
7. Egrets will attempt to return and nest in the trees where they were born. This will keep happening for three years or more. Contact local CandleRidge Resident Matt Maxwell at

[mattmaxwell777@hotmail.com](mailto:mattmaxwell777@hotmail.com) or at 817-929-8867 before purchasing noise making devices. He has experience and already has possession of most noise maker devices.

8. Local Tree Trimmers:

Bartlett Tree Experts 817-656-8733

Burleson Tree Service 817-447-4617

J. Davis Tree Care 817-274-8733

Ricky Harten Tree Service 817-901-5428

9. Experts as to the federal law protecting these birds:

Rachel Richter Tx Parks & Wildlife, 972-293-3841 ext. 801 or 972- 754-4007.

City of Fort Worth Animal Care & Control, 817-392-1234

Omar Bocanegra US Fish & Wildlife Svc. 817-277-1100 ext. 2211

10. Harrassment of egrets and herons must stop once eggs have been laid in the nests.