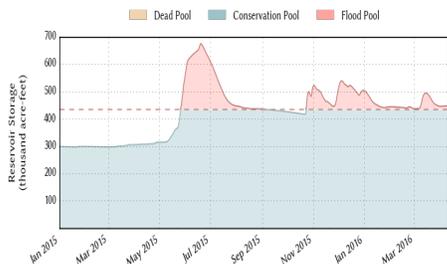


Woodlake Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

BELTON LAKE'S LEVEL BROACHES HISTORIC CAPACITY

Living as close to Lake Belton as most of us do, it's not that remarkable to witness lake levels ebb and flow, rise and fall from its highest level



during the latest flood of '92 to the disturbingly low level during the dry spell as recent as the summer of 2015.

The ebb and flow is all part of a natural cycle; both beneficial to the ecosystem, and not so.

For the recreational boater and angler, it's not fun wondering, if your weekend plans on the water or that next tournament whether or not your favorite launch/boat ramp will be open.

Thus far, the only impact on high water levels have had is the "Closed Indefinitely" standing of Sparta Valley Park. The Sandy Point boat ramp at Temple Lake Park is also closed due to flood levels.

The north boat ramp at Temple Lake Park, however, is open as well as Belton Lakeview Park boat ramp, Westcliff Park and Cedar Ridge. The boat ramp at Live Oak Ridge Park is open but only if you're camping there.

COUNTY SHERIFF TIP LINE: WANTED AS OF MARCH 31st, 2016

http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd/adult_probation/most_wanted.php, and/or;
<http://bellcountycrimestoppers.com>;



Mathew Hering is a 22 year-old, 170 lbs, 5'9", B/M with Brown Eyes and Black Hair, last known address: Temple. Hering is Wanted For: Burglary Of Habitation w/Intent to Commit Theft.

FROM AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has added Dustin Ray Smith, 33, to the Texas 10 Most Wanted Sex Offenders list, and a cash reward up to \$3,000 is now being offered for information leading to his capture.

Smith is wanted for failure to register as a sex offender, evading arrest and probation violation.

Smith has ties to Amarillo and the state of

Tennessee. In 2012, Smith was convicted of sexual assault of a child after an incident in Potter County involving a 15-year-old girl. His criminal history also includes retaliation and assault. For more information or updates in the event of his arrest, see his wanted bulletin at:

<http://www.dps.texas.gov/Texas10MostWanted/SexOffenderDetails.aspx?id=326>.

Smith is 5 feet 9 inches tall and weighs approximately 175 pounds. He has a tattoo on the left side of his neck and a scar near his right eye. He has work experience as a painter and maintenance worker.

Texas Crime Stoppers, which is funded by the Governor's Criminal Justice Division, offers cash rewards to any person who provides information that leads to the arrest of one of the Texas 10 Most Wanted fugitives or sex offenders.

IF THE COP THAT STOPS YOU ISN'T REAL, WHAT DO YOU DO?

Late on an evening in October 2013, 4 armed men posing as police officers broke into a southeast Houston home near Redwood. After demanding money they fled in the family's SUV. The SUV was recovered a short time later, but the unidentified suspects remain at large.

In the weeks that followed, other suspects posing as police officers have confronted victims in their homes or businesses in apparently unrelated cases: On November 2nd, a man impersonating an officer broke into an apartment in Corporate near Houston. The suspect, dressed in a uniform similar to the type worn by Houston police, used a crow bar to break into an apartment. The resident confronted the armed intruder but was slightly wounded when the two struggled for the weapon.

The Texas State Highway Patrol, Texas Rangers, Department of Corrections, Department of Public Safety, Department of Criminal Justice and the Terrell and Forney police departments were called in to help track down 4 of 5 men accused of posing as police officers and robbing a Kaufman County man in his home. One was arrested shortly after a 4-hour manhunt involving at least 7 law enforcement agencies.

The suspects wore a mixture of police and military clothes and carried a shotgun and a pistol when they broke into the residence.



Residents in Denver, Colorado are being warned about police impersonators who are trying to scam people out of money. Multiple residents reported being called from people claiming to be county court officers but later learned that no such persons existed or worked for the county courts and that information was false.

Often people get a little afraid when they get a call like this but they don't want to get in trouble so they try to comply. The callers tell residents they have missed jury duty, have an outstanding warrant or overdue fines and need to pay immediately to clear their name, or are being asked to wire money to pay off a fine, a ticket or a court summons.

Phone scammers often "spoof" calls by using a third-party app to mask their real phone number. The scammer can use the spoof software to make any phone number appear on the victim's caller ID, making it look like the police department is legitimately calling.

And, as late as last Saturday, April 2nd, a Temple police officer responded to a call around 4:10 a.m. at the Super 8 Motel on Midway Drive and General Bruce Drive about someone impersonating a police officer.

Kristian Jesse Culver, 32, approached an on-duty clerk and asked for the room number of someone staying at the motel. Culver allegedly displayed a badge and told the clerk he was with the police department and needed the room number. When the clerk refused to give him the room number, Culver told the clerk he would get a warrant and then left the office. The clerk then called police.

WARNING!!!! - DO NOT DRIVE AWAY IF YOU KNOW IT'S A REAL POLICE OFFICER! THIS WILL GET YOU IN TROUBLE. ONLY CAN YOU USE THIS OPTION IF YOU KNOW THEY ARE A FAKE.

When the TPD officer arrived, he found Culver's vehicle at the Valero gas station across the highway. The officer turned on his lights and pulled up behind Culver's vehicle. Culver then drove to the back of the store, stopped, and opened his door. The officer approached the driver's side of the vehicle but when the officer made contact with the suspect, Culver accelerated and tried to get way, trapping the officer inside Culver's vehicle.

Culver made a hard left turn, ran over a curb, and drove through a ditch near Charter Oaks

The publication of this newsletter is unofficial and does not express any opinion, directive, or policy of the Woodlake Property Owners Association members or Board of Directors. The primary purpose of the newsletter is to convey information designed to assist us to reduce or prevent crime in our community. The information presented is available through various public access sources, personal interview, or observation. Your comments as to how we can improve this effort are welcome.

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Drive. He and the officer then fell out of the vehicle and onto the side of the road.

When other officers arrived at the scene, they found the officer lying on the ground suffering from back pain and Culver running away but was quickly apprehended by the other officers at the scene.

Culver, suffering a broken arm, was transported to Scott and White in Temple. The injured officer was also taken to Scott and White with back injuries however; he was later released and recovered at home.

Culver was released on Saturday afternoon but was charged with assault on a public servant and impersonating a public servant and incarcerated. His bond was set at \$150,000.

Being pulled over by a real police officer can be a very scary experience. But, when you're being pulled over, how do you know that the officer approaching you isn't a fake?

(1) Check if the police officer is in a police vehicle. This may not apply to unmarked vehicles, but it's a guaranteed if they are in one (unless there was a police car theft). This only works if you know the appearance of official police vehicles where you are. If you are on holiday, you may not even know the word for 'police' let alone what color the highway / county / state / Border / National / Local police cars officially are.

(2) Remember, that if you really doubt the identity of someone trying to pull you over, you should proceed to a well-lit, busy place such as a gas station, fast food place or convenience store before stopping your car. Even better, go to police headquarters or a local sub-station, if you know where one is. Turn on your four way flashers to notify the officer that you are aware he or she is attempting to stop you.

(3) Check if they have badges. They may be faked, but better safe than sorry.

(4) Ask for identification; police carry identification cards clearly identifying them and their agency, which are harder to fake than badges. Make sure you know what an off ID card looks like.

(5) Call emergency services! If you think it may be a fake, you can call the emergency services safely! Don't worry about getting in trouble, it is perfectly fine.

(6) See if they are in a police uniform. If the officer is not, then request that an identified officer (with a marked police car and full uniform) proceed to the traffic stop.

Drive away if you know that they're an imposter! Better to live and get charged, than to take a chance and possibly die.

If you are not sure whether an FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) agent or agents are real, you can still call emergency services to ask for an officer or officers to come and verify the situation.

Fake business cards are easy to make. All with gold seals and ID info.

If you are pulled over by an unmarked car, call emergency services and ask for verification of your location and the cop's ID and name, then roll down the window part way to talk. If the police department verifies them, tell them what you did and they will understand. Otherwise, drive away and report the person or vehicle to the authorities.

IN TODAY'S CYBER CORNER...

In 2013, The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, (CID) issued a warning about an Internet phishing scam where criminals are attempting to pose as Army CID officials via email stating that they were from the (nonexistent) "Office of the Division of Criminal Investigation, or DCI."

In the email, the perpetrators state that they have discovered fraudulent activities with a company that the targeted victim had contacted.

The cyber-criminals then ask the potential victim to acknowledge the email and provide financial and personal information.

According to CID special agents, these phishing and/or spear-phishing emails originate from overseas, most likely Western Africa, which is home to a number of well-known Internet scams such as the "Nigerian Scam," "Foreign Lottery Scam" and the "Romance Scam" that continues to plague the public.

Most email scam attempts are easily recognizable as they are usually unsolicited, contain misspelled words, punctuation and grammatical errors, and often ask for personally identifiable and/or financial information or for money.

Cyber-crime and Internet fraud continue to present unique challenges to U.S. law enforcement agencies as criminals have the ability to mask their true identities, locations, cover their tracks quickly and adapt to ever changing technical environment.

Your best defense to similar cyber attack or phishing scams is NEVER RESPOND TO THE SUSPICIOUS EMAIL. STOP all contact if you

have responded to the email and report it to authorities.

Other cyber-crime resources available are:
 -- Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3): <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>
 -- Federal Trade Commission: spam@uce.gov

AND THEN THERE'S FACEBOOK...

Do you have the tendency to "Like" anything your friends post on Facebook? If so, you may be a target for another cyber criminal.

Scammers are taking advantage of that reflex for a dangerous scam called "like-farming."

Like-farming is when scammers post an attention-grabbing story on Facebook for the express purpose of cultivating likes and shares.

Based on the way Facebook works, the more likes and shares a post has, the more likely it is to show up in people's News Feeds. This gives the scammer more eyeballs for posts that trick people out of information or send them to malicious downloads.

Even if Facebook tried to stop these post from getting too big, scammers have found a simple way to fly under the radar during the early phases of their operation.

Their original story to Facebook has nothing dangerous about it. It's just a regular story that anyone might post.

Only after the post gets a certain number of likes and shares does the scammer edit it and add something malicious. If you go back through your history of liked posts it's likely you'll see something you would have never "Liked".

Stories about rescued animals, a medical miracle or governmental adversarial posts that play on the emotions are typical "come-ons".

Or maybe it's the ones that say "If I get X number of likes, then something amazing will happen for me" or "I was challenged to get X number of likes."

These aren't the only examples of "Like-Farming" but basically, any post that asks you to like it for emotional reasons, unless you know the person who created the original post, is quite probably a scam attempt.

You can avoid "Like-Farming" by being very judicious about what you like and share on Facebook. Unless it's from a friend or someone you recognize, never reflexively click "like" on anything. It will also help keep a lot of clutter off of your friend's news page.