



# SEABROOK ISLAND LIVING

*With Mary Guagliano and Pat Polychron*



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# Mary and Pat's Featured Listings



**\$1,395,000**  
3063 Greggs Court  
Marsh View



**\$325,000**  
1807 Heron Point  
Marsh View



**\$2,200,000**  
3755 Beach Court  
Ocean View



**\$439,000**  
2903 Atrium Villa  
OceanView



**\$699,000**  
3200 Privateer Creek Rd.  
Golf Lagoon View



**\$1,395,000**  
3350 Seabrook Island Rd.  
Marsh View



**\$498,500**  
2652 Seabrook Island Rd.  
Wooded View



**\$775,000**  
1037 Crooked Oaks Ln.  
Golf View



**\$230,000**  
2117 Bay Pointe Villas  
Marsh View



This is just a sampling of the many spectacular properties Mary Guagliano and Pat Polychron are listing on Seabrook. To view all of their listings, please visit Mary and Pat's website at [www.SeabrookIslandLiving.com](http://www.SeabrookIslandLiving.com). There is something for everyone!

# Did you know...



**S**panish moss has found a home on Seabrook Island! What is this fascinating growth and where else does it thrive? This beautiful plant covers our trees and adds aesthetic beauty to our island, yet few know what it really is and how it survives.

## WHAT IS SPANISH MOSS?

**S**panish moss, known more formally as *tillandsia usneoides*, is a bit of a misnomer, as it is not a true moss. Also referred to as Florida Moss, graybeard, or long moss, Spanish Moss is an epiphytic plant (it makes its own food) which grows on another plant, but does not rely on the host plant for nutrients. They are sometimes referred to as air plants because most have aerial roots; however, Spanish moss does not have any roots. It uses its long, thin, scaly stems to wrap around the host tree and hang down from the branches. The leaves are covered with cup-like, permeable scales that 'catch' moisture and nutrients from the air and from pockets on the surface of the host. This water-trapping ability allows Spanish moss to withstand long dry periods. In extreme dry spells, the plant becomes dormant until moisture returns. Spanish moss is limited to Central and South America and the southeastern United States, from Florida to Texas.



## CAN IT DAMAGE THE HOST TREE?

**W**hile the plant is not parasitic, it can sometimes damage the host tree by over-shading the leaves, thus reducing photosynthesis, or by weighing down and breaking the branches.

## HOW DOES IT REPRODUCE?

**T**he plants have very tiny seeds that are dispersed by wind and birds. Birds may also carry off small fragments that easily reproduce new plants.

## WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

**S**panish moss was harvested for years as a stuffing material in automobile seats, furniture, and mattresses. The moss-stuffed mattresses were said to be cooler and more comfortable due to the natural insulating properties of the plant. This was especially important in pre-air-conditioning days. Moss pickers were hired and used long poles to pull the stringy masses off the trees. The plants were then dried and cured before being used.

Today, the stems are used occasionally in upholstery and as a packing material. Spanish moss is a popular mulch and is widely used in the floral industry. Many floral arrangements use Spanish moss around the plant base to hold in moisture. It is also seen in certain types of Cajun architecture as insulation and it is sometimes draped along fences or wires to provide privacy screening in backyards.

