

2010 CENSUS ARRIVES IN MARCH

You Have 10 Minutes to Define Who We Are As a Nation

Your United States Census questionnaire will be mailed to your home in March. When you receive your Census, please complete it and mail it back. With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Households are asked to provide key demographic information, including whether a housing unit is rented or owned; the address of the residence; and the names, genders, ages and races of others living in the household.



By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

A requirement of the U.S. Constitution, the census is conducted once every 10 years to count the population and determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. The census counts everyone living in the United States—both citizens and non citizens.

The Importance of Census Data

- Every year, the federal government allocated more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data.
- Census data are used to determine locations for retail stores, schools, hospitals, new housing developments and other community facilities.
- Census data determine boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts.

Households that do not respond may receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census takers will visit households that do not return questionnaires to take a count in person. For more information, visit www.census.gov.

FARMERS MARKET OPEN SATURDAYS

The new, expanded Farmers Market is now open on Saturdays at Market Square, 120 W. Main St. (on the corner of Main and NW 2nd streets) from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Spend your Saturday morning shopping for fresh, locally grown produce, spices, seasonings, honey, candles and more.



FREE KIDS FISHING DAY

Saturday, March 6 • 1-4 p.m.

Mike Lewis Park Lagoon
2600 N. Carrier Parkway

Kids 16 years and younger are invited to fish for rainbow trout in the Mike Lewis Park Lagoon.

Prizes will be awarded by age categories (1-6, 7-11, 12-16) for the biggest fish, smallest fish and most fish caught. Anglers may keep their catch, so parents should bring something to put the fish in to take home.

Anglers are encouraged to bring their own fishing tackle and bait. A limited number of loaner rods and reels will be available on a first-come basis with a driver's license or credit card deposit. While the event is free, children will be requested to register on site at the park pavilion to be eligible for prizes. Anyone 17 years and older is welcome to fish after the event, provided they have a current Texas fishing license.

No pre-registration is required. For more information call Parks and Recreation at 972-237-8100, or visit www.GrandFunGP.com.

STAY IN THE KNOW WITH NIXLE

Stay instantly informed of trusted, neighborhood-level public safety and community information. You choose the information you want, for the addresses you want, all delivered at no cost by text message, e-mail and Web.  Sign up now at www.nixle.com to stay connected to the information that matters most to you!

MICROCHIP MADNESS IN MARCH

Microchip your pet for just \$15 per pet, registration is included in the price.

Sat., March 27 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. or first 200 animals

Prairie Paws Adoption Center, 2222 W. Warrior Trail. 972-237-8575

Limited to five pets per household. Grand Prairie residents only

Having your pet microchipped offers a permanent, national identification for your pet. The implant is placed painlessly under your pet's skin. Should your pet stray or become lost and lose his collar and tags, the Home Again national recovery center will provide your name, address and telephone number to anyone who finds your pet anytime, day or night.



If you find a lost pet, most veterinarians and shelters will check for microchips at no cost. Be a responsible pet owner and take this precaution for your pet's safety.

All dogs will need to be on a leash and cats in carriers. Aggressive animals will not be permitted.

EARLY BIRD SAVINGS FOR THE SUMMIT

The Summit, Grand Prairie's premiere 50+ club is currently pre-selling memberships before the grand opening on May 15. The 60,000-square-foot activity center targets active adults and offers:

Café • Fitness area • Locker rooms with saunas • Banquet rooms and kitchen
Group exercise room • Indoor walking track • 100-seat movie theater
Gym for basketball and volleyball • Outdoor covered patio overlooking lake
Indoor swimming pool with lap lanes, exercise vortex, hot tub

Age	Annual	Early Member Bonus
65+	\$50/year	two FREE months added to annual membership
50-64	\$200/year	two FREE months added to annual membership

To purchase, visit the Senior Center, 925 Conover Dr., 972-264-4975, or go online to www.grandfungp.com/thesummit.

GROUP TRAVEL WITH THE SUMMIT

Experience a European Alpine Christmas in 2010 in Austria and Germany!

Highlights Include:

Innsbruck • Golden Roof • Munich • Oberammergau • Salzburg

Shop the area's legendary Christmas markets!

8 days, 10 meals included, only 1 hotel!

The cost is \$2,399 with air included. Attend an informational presentation on Tues., March 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the Grand Prairie Senior Center, 925 Conover Dr. Call 972-264-4975 for more information. Refreshments will be served.

PRE-K FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Saturdays, March 13-April 24 • 10 a.m.- noon • Ages 4-6

This six game league 7-on-7 focuses on the basics such as offense, defense, and teamwork. Held on a condensed field at Freedom Park, scores and standings will not be kept. Fee: \$50 per child. Includes jersey and trophy. For more information call 972-264-7670.

SPRING BREAK CAMP

When school lets out for Spring Break, Bowles Life Center is the place to be! Spring Break Camp will include supervised activities in the Bowles game room, computer lab, gymnasium, aerobics room, library and multipurpose rooms. Campers will take fieldtrips and enjoy special events at Bowles including a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, and game room challenges.

Mon., March 15 - Fri., March 19
7 a.m.-6 p.m.

Ages 6-12 • Fee: \$16/child/day

For more information, please call the Bowles Life Center at 972-237-7529.

MAKE A DATE FOR THE UPTOWN THEATER

Make a date for a night out at Grand Prairie's Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main St. in downtown Grand Prairie. Tickets are available at www.uptowntheatergp.com or call 972-237-UPTN.

Sat., March 6, 8 p.m.

Songs and Stories Celebrating Texas Independence Day

Jon Dee Graham and Darrell Scott with a very special guest.

Thurs., March 25 - Sat., March 27, 8 p.m.



Sun., March 28, 2 p.m.

The Odd Couple: Female Version
Unger and Madison are at it again! Florence Ungar and Olive Madison, that is, in Neil Simon's hilarious contemporary comic classic.

Sat., April 17, 8 p.m.

Simply Sinatra

SPRING AND EASTER PET PHOTOS

Make an appointment today to have your pet's photo taken by a professional pet photographer. Photos are by appointment only for Saturday, March 20, at the Prairie Paws Adoption Center. Photos start at \$25 and a portion of the proceeds will go to benefit the Animal Care Fund.

Call Ann Joiner-Carroll at 972-237-8582 to schedule an appointment. The Prairie Paws Adoption Center is located at 2222 W. Warrior Trail. Space is limited.

YOU CAN PROTECT OUR WATERWAYS

Did you know that litter carried away by wind or rain goes directly into our creeks and rivers via storm drains? Once in our waterways, these "floatables" can cause flooding, trap and choke wildlife, impede recreational opportunities such as swimming, fishing and boating, cause adverse economic impacts on businesses, and reduce the aesthetic value of our neighborhoods and waterways. We can help to prevent these impacts by reducing waste and practicing pollution prevention.



Vs.



How You Can Help

- If you store your trash outside in between collection days, make sure it is in a covered container inaccessible to pets and wildlife.
- When you put your trash outside for curb side pick up, do so after 8 p.m. the night before your collection day. Placing your trash on the curb before this time increases the chance that animals will help themselves to your trash. In addition, as trash sits in the sun during the day a strong odor results; this makes your trash more attractive to animals.
- Pick up any stray trash on your property, even if it is not yours.
- Never throw trash out of your vehicle and do not place loose trash in the bed of your truck.
- Use non-disposable cups and plates. If you must use disposable dishes, use paper instead of plastic or Styrofoam.
- Join one of the city's clean up programs (for more information, see www.gptx.org/green and click on Beautification) or create your own neighborhood clean up group!

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE

Volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) are offering free tax help sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Main Library, 901 Conover Dr. The sessions, for seniors and low-income residents, begin Feb. 1 and continue until April 14. Participants should bring last year's tax return, as well as any 1099s, W-2s, or other tax documents.

HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION MARCH 6

With spring right around the corner, people are ready to get outdoors and work in their lawns and gardens. Homeowners are encouraged to purchase fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides in order to have a green, bug-free, weed-free lawn. However, due to frequent spring rains, lawn chemicals often end up contaminating the creeks and rivers, causing fish kills and other water quality problems.



A better alternative is to go organic. Check with your local garden center for less toxic alternatives to care for your landscape. If you use lawn chemicals, make sure you purchase only what you need, and apply them so that you prevent runoff. Check your garage or storage shed to ensure you aren't purchasing additional amounts of things you already have.

If you have lawn chemicals you need to dispose of, you can bring them to our next household hazardous waste collection on **Saturday, March 6** from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the Development Center, 201 NW 2nd Street (next to City Hall). There will be an additional event on **Saturday, March 27** from 8 a.m.-noon at the Grand Prairie Landfill, 1102 MacArthur.

We will accept household and automotive batteries, pharmaceuticals, motor oil, cooking oil, paint, aerosol cans, fluorescent bulbs, and household, landscape, and pool chemicals. We will not accept explosives, gas cylinders, fireworks, medical waste, radioactive materials, or municipal trash. No commercial waste will be accepted.

Registration is required. Register by calling 972-237-8055 or on-line at www.gptx.org/WQ/HHW.

MAY 8, 2010 CITY ELECTION

ELECCIONES DE LA CIUDAD DEL 8 DE MAYO DEL 2010

To File For A Place On The Ballot: (Aviso De Fecha Limite Para Presentar Soliciudes Para Un Lugar En La Boleta)

City Council Offices which will be up for election at the May 8, 2010 Regular Election are:

Las oficinas del consejo de la ciudad que estarán para votación durante las elecciones regulares del 8 de Mayo del 2010 son:

- Mayor (for a three-year term)¹
- Council Member, District 2 (for a three-year term)²
- Council Member, District 4 (for a three-year term)³
- Alcalde (por un termino de tres años)¹*
- Miembro de Consejo, Distrito 2 (por un termino de tres años)²*
- Miembro de Consejo, Distrito 4 (por un termino de tres años)³*



¹Must be a resident of Texas for 12 months and the City of Grand Prairie for six months immediately preceding the 45th day before the election.

¹*Debe ser residente del Estado de Tejas por 12 meses y residente de la Ciudad de Grand Prairie por 6 meses inmediatamente siguiendo el día 45 antes de las elecciones.*

² Must be a resident of Texas for 12 months and a resident of District 2 for six months immediately preceding the 45th day before the election.

²*Debe ser residente del Estado de Tejas por 12 meses y residente del Distrito 2 por 6 meses inmediatamente siguiendo el día 45 antes de las elecciones.*

³ Must be a resident of Texas for 12 months and a resident of District 4 for six months immediately preceding the 45th day before the election.

³*Debe ser residente del Estado de Tejas por 12 meses y residente del Distrito 4 por 6 meses inmediatamente siguiendo el día 45 antes de las elecciones.*

The last day to register to vote in the May 8, 2010 election is April 8, 2010.

El ultimo día para registrarse para votar en las elecciones del 8 de Mayo del 2010 es el 8 de Abril del 2010.

Applications for a place on the City of Grand Prairie Regular Election ballot may be filed during the following time:

(Se da aviso por la presente que las solicitudes para un lugar en la boleta de la Elección Regular de Ciudad de Grand Prairie se pueden presentar durante el siguiente horario:)

Filing Dates and Times:

(Fechas y Horario para Entregar Presentaciones)

Start Date: February 8, 2010
(Fecha Inicio)

End Date: March 8, 2010
(Fecha Límite)

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(Horario de la Oficina)

Physical address for filing applications in person for place on the ballot:

(Dirección a física para presentar las solicitudes en persona para un lugar en la boleta)

*City Secretary's Office
City Hall
317 College Street
Grand Prairie, Texas 75050*

Address to mail applications for place on the ballot (if filing by mail):

(Dirección a donde enviar las solicitudes para un lugar en la boleta (en caso de presentar por correo)

*City Secretary's Office
City of Grand Prairie
P.O. Box 534045
Grand Prairie, TX 75053*