

NEW SOFTWARE FINDS OUTSTANDING WARRANTS

More eyes are on the road now with the Grand Prairie Marshal's new license plate recognition software. Four cameras installed in Grand Prairie's marshal cars are designed to scan license plates as vehicles move down the road. Each license plate number is sent to a computer software system and compared with the Grand Prairie court database in search of vehicles whose owners have outstanding warrants or vehicles that are registered as stolen. The software then notifies the marshal by voice and the marshal is authorized to pull over the identified vehicle. Offenders must then follow the marshal to court to pay the fine and clear warrants or work out a payment plan. If the drivers refuse to pay the fines, they are jailed and their vehicle is towed.

KIOSKS SAVE TIME IN COURT LINE

There's a faster way to pay fines in Grand Prairie at the Municipal Court's new kiosk. Available in June, a new kiosk will enable customers to look up outstanding tickets in English and Spanish and make payments with the click of a few buttons.

Located in the Municipal Court lobby at 200 W. Main, the kiosk will accept cash, Visa and MasterCard credit and debit cards and will provide change. The machine will be available 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday.



NEW BRUSH PICKUP FEES EFFECTIVE JULY 1

Beginning July 1, new brush pickup fees become effective. City brush crews travel the city from north to south every month picking up your brush that has been hauled to the curb. Once a month, crews will pick up 5 cubic yards (about the size of a small subcompact car) or less of brush for free. Second pickups, out of schedule pickups and oversized pickups will be \$85 for each 5 cubic yards of brush. Following natural disasters, the fees will be waived as reasonable. The fees are added to your next water bill.

You may also discard of your brush and yard trimmings with your regular garbage pickup. Tree limbs and brush must be less than 6 feet in length, bundled in no more than 50 pound bundles and placed next to your household garbage. Bagged leaves and shrubs will be collected with household garbage but not grass clippings.

LIFE IS GRAND MAGAZINE HITS THE SHELVES

The city of Grand Prairie's Summer 2010 edition of its quarterly magazine, *Life is Grand*, is now available online and at various city facilities around town. *Life is Grand* contains the parks and recreation class guide and special events, as well as city news. Formerly mailed to each household in Grand Prairie, the magazine has gone digital, with a limited number of printed copies available in recreation centers and other city offices, as a money saving measure.

View the latest edition at www.GrandFunGP.com

THE SUMMIT Now OPEN!



Come and see the premier 50+ club of Grand Prairie!

Amenities include luxurious dining room and ballrooms overlooking the lakes, theater, game room, half court gym, 4,000-square-foot fitness area, aerobic room, indoor pool, indoor track plus much more. Come by today for your tour!

Annual membership rates for Grand Prairie residents are:
50-64 yrs. - \$200 • 65+ yrs. - \$50

The Summit, 2795 Esplanade
(corner of SH 161 and Warrior)

972-237-4141

www.GrandFunGP.com

Bring this article in with you and get a gift when you sign up for an annual membership!

FARMERS MARKET OPEN THURS., SAT.



The new, expanded Farmers Market is now open on Thursdays and Saturdays at Market Square, 120 W. Main St. (on the corner of Main and NW 2nd streets) from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Shop the market for fresh, locally grown produce, meat, poultry, eggs, honey, soaps, coffee, baked goods and more. Visit www.gptx.org/farmersmarket.

WHY DOES THE WATER TASTE DIFFERENT?

1. As the seasons change, water supplies undergo natural processes that impact the taste and odor of drinking water. These changes, while sometimes a nuisance, do not indicate unsafe drinking water. Grand Prairie water is tested daily to ensure that it meets all state and federal regulations, which are based on human health research. If these standards are not met, we are required to notify you.
2. The seasons that typically have the greatest impact on the taste and odor of our drinking water are spring and summer. Heavy spring rainfall, higher temperatures and more sunlight accelerate the growth of algae in the water. Algae are microscopic plants, which grow in rivers and lakes.
3. In the spring, heavy rains bring organic matter (sediment) into the watershed, sometimes leading to “earthy” or “musty” tastes. This matter acts as a “fertilizer” to the algae, encouraging its growth, especially during long periods of sunlight.
4. Most episodes of taste and odor cannot be removed by conventional treatment processes. The algae “bloom” must run its course before the taste and odor subside.
5. In the summer, the city supplements its purchase of surface water with water wells. The mix of these different supplies is noticeable to those who have become used to surface supplies during the course of the year. Our ground water meets the same standards as our surface water, but tastes different.
6. Ground water naturally contains a high dissolved mineral content, which will give it a more distinct taste. The presence of natural minerals gives water much of its taste. Water without minerals (distilled) tastes flat.
7. Sometimes people detect the odor of chlorine in their water. This is a disinfectant used to ensure the biological integrity of the water and is mandated for use by the federal government. Usually the odor will be most apparent after first turning on the water. After a few minutes, the odor usually fades. Before the use of chlorine, waterborne diseases were a major problem. Its use has virtually eliminated diseases such as typhoid, cholera and dysentery.
8. “Milky” water is often caused by the presence of tiny air bubbles. To confirm this, pour some water in a glass. If the water starts to clean immediately from the bottom up, the cause was entrapped air bubbles.
9. Cooling water in the refrigerator in an open container will improve the taste and odor of your water.
10. Speakers on water conservation are available to talk to civic groups, community and charitable organizations. For more information, call 972-237-8377 or e-mail sjackson@gptx.org.

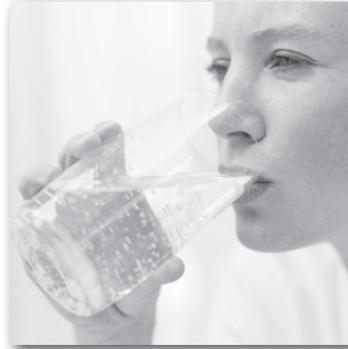


PHOTO CONTEST OPEN FOR ENTRIES

Amateur and professional photographers who live in Grand Prairie are invited to enter the 2011 City Calendar Photo Contest. Entries accepted through Oct. 1, 2010.

Photo must feature Grand Prairie:

- Entertainment attractions, parks, events
- City services, facilities, programs, employees at work
- Pretty places in Grand Prairie
- GPISD students, facilities, activities (only one month in calendar may feature the schools)

Format may be 8 x 10 inch print or 600 DPI TIF file on CD or e-mail with your name, address and phone number to aspinkles@gptx.org. Prints can be returned if return address is on back of photo. Send entries to:

Amy Sprinkles
Marketing and Public Information
City of Grand Prairie
P.O. Box 534045
Grand Prairie, Texas 75053

Kitten Sale!



Adopt two kittens for \$100 and adoptee will receive \$100 in medical vouchers.

Prairie Paws Adoption Center
2222 W. Warrior Trail
Grand Prairie, TX 75052
972-237-8575

gptx.org/paws



Coupon redeemable for a limited time.

PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS FOR CITY HAZARD PLAN

The city of Grand Prairie Office of Emergency Management has scheduled public meetings on the development of the city's hazard mitigation action plan as part of a grant program administered by the Department of Homeland Security. Grand Prairie residents are invited to learn more about the hazard mitigation program and provide input into the planning process at the following meetings:

Thursday, July 22 at 6 p.m.

City Council Chambers, 317 College St.

Thursday, August 19 at 6 p.m.

City Council Chambers, 317 College St.



Under the direction of the Emergency Management Coordinator, city departments, GPISD and partner agencies are working to develop the city's hazard mitigation action plan. The plan will include a risk assessment and hazard mitigation strategies and actions to identify projects that will reduce the risk of loss of life, injury and property damage from future natural and human-caused disasters.

For more information on the meeting or on hazard mitigation planning, contact Tonya Hunter, Emergency Management Coordinator at 972-237-7595 or e-mail: thunter@gptx.org.

DON'T BAG GRASS

The city of Grand Prairie has committed to keeping grass clippings out of the landfill by not picking up bags of grass clippings from your residence. Grass clippings can be left on your lawn after mowing or used as compost. Homeowners who followed the "Don't Bag It Lawn Care Plan" report that they have healthier lawns and completed mowing in less time. For more recycling ideas, please call 972-237-8061 or go to www.gptx.org/Recycling.

SUMMER MOSQUITO SAFETY

Summer is here and along with it comes "mosquito season." Mosquito season in Grand Prairie typically runs from May to October with peak activity in August.

Mosquitoes can carry diseases and transmit them to humans and animals. West Nile Virus, Dengue, and La Crosse Virus are among the diseases they can transmit. However, not all mosquitoes are harmful to humans or animals. Adult male mosquitoes, for example, feed on flower nectar and juices of fruits for flight energy. Adult female mosquitoes, on the other hand, require a blood meal for egg development.

Defend yourself against mosquito bites using the 3 Ds:

DEET: Use insect repellent products that contain DEET.

DRAIN: Remove all areas of standing water. Change water in wading pools, pet dishes and birdbaths several times per week. Mosquitoes breed in stagnant waters. If you have a pool, keep it clean and chlorinated.

DRESS: Avoid mosquito bites by wearing long, loose and light-colored clothing outside during dusk and dawn hours.



UPTOWN ART SERIES 2010-2011

Don't miss the Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main Street, Art series, "Talking, Singing, Dancing! It's a Dramatic Sensation!"



- **Girls with Guitars** – three legendary Texas women together on stage - October 24
 - **Runt of the Litter** – one man stage production featuring former NFL star Bo Eason - November 19 and 20
 - **Christmas on Main Street** – a musical revue featuring the best songs of the season - December 3
 - **Improvised Shakespeare Company** – laugh out loud hilarious improvisation comedy group does your play – Shakespeare style - January 21 -23, 2011
 - **Mother Load the Show** – hilarious one woman show that mixes motherhood, comedy and true confession April 1-3, 2011
 - **Rhythmic Circus: Feet Don't Fail Me Now** – seven piece band backs an innovative performance company known for transforming their tap shoes into instruments of rhythm April 30, 2011
- Purchase season tickets online at www.uptowntheatergp.com or by calling 972-237-UPTN.

GOLF ACADEMIES AT PRAIRIE LAKES

Are you new to the game of golf and need to learn the basics? Or are you a seasoned player looking to take a few strokes off your score card? Prairie Lakes Golf Academy at Prairie Lakes Golf Course, 3202 SE 14th Street, has a course that will fit your needs. For women, beginning adults, juniors and golf improvement. Call 972-263-0661.