

CITY HOSTS STATE ARBOR DAY

Friday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m. • Grand Central, 2975 Esplanade

The City of Grand Prairie will host the 2017 state Arbor Day celebration this year. The event will feature a ceremony, tree plantings, free tree adoptions, student performers from GPISD, more than 20 informational and educational booths, and a concert by the four-time Grammy nominated Trout Fishing in America.



Under the leadership of the Texas Forestry Association, Texas first observed Arbor Day in 1889, celebrating the benefits that trees provide over a lifetime.

“The idea is for everyone in Texas to take one day – the same day – to truly appreciate trees and plant one,” said Paul Johnson, Texas A&M Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator. “Planting a tree leaves a legacy for future generations while beautifying the spaces where we live, work and play today.”

For more information about the event, visit GrandFunGP.com.

SOUTH CARRIER CONSTRUCTION

The southbound lanes of South Carrier Parkway between Marshall Drive and Freetown Road will remain closed until mid October 2017 for reconstruction. Traffic is diverted east and west down Marshall Drive to Robinson Road and Southwest 3rd Street. The northbound lanes will remain open until southbound construction is complete, and then northbound lanes will be reconstructed. For updates, visit gptx.org.

FABULOUS FALL EVENTS

Trick-or-Trail

Friday, Oct. 27, 5-7 p.m.
 Shotwell Life Center, 2750 Graham St.

Dalworth Block Party

Friday, Oct. 27, 5-7 p.m.
 Dalworth Recreation Center, 2012 Spikes St.

Charley Taylor Halloween Community Carnival

Friday, Oct. 27, 5-7 p.m.
 Charley Taylor Recreation Center
 601 E. Grand Prairie Road

Pumpkin Swim

Saturday, Oct. 28, 1:15-3:15 p.m.
 Kirby Creek Natatorium, 3303 Corn Valley Road

Pumpkin Run - 10K, 5K and 1-Mile

Saturday, Oct. 14 • Lynn Creek Park, 5610 Lake Ridge Parkway
 Register at pumpkinrun.us

Street N' Treat

Tuesday, Oct. 31, 6-8 p.m. • Farmers Market, 120 W. Main St.
 Free games, face painting, kid's crafts and trick-or-treating.

Forest of Fear

Friday, Oct. 20-Saturday, Oct. 21 and Friday, Oct. 27-Saturday, Oct. 28
 Loyd Park, 3401 Ragland Road
 Begins at sundown. \$10 vehicle entry fee. Free hayrides.



HALF AND 5K

Saturday, Oct. 22, 8 a.m.
 Lynn Creek Park
 5610 Lake Ridge Parkway

Participate in That Dam Half and 5K to help raise funds for the city's first all-inclusive playground, PlayGrand Adventures.

Register at runproject.org/thatdamhalf/

CYCLIN' WITH THE MAYOR

Join Mayor Ron Jensen for monthly 5-mile bike rides as part of the city's Get Fit wellness initiative. Visit gptx.org/getfitgp for full schedule. Gather at 6 p.m. Ride begins at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 26
Lynn Creek Park Ride
 5700 Lake Ridge Parkway

Tuesday, Oct. 24
Nottingham Ride
 Meet at Larson Elementary School
 2620 E. Avenue K

COMING SOON TO THE UPTOWN THEATER



Enjoy spectacular shows at Grand Prairie's Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main St. For tickets, visit uptowntheatergpx.com or call 972-237-8786.

Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street
Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Oct. 6-8

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council

Twist of Lemon Oct. 14
Chris Lemmon tells the story of his dad, Jack Lemmon

The Power of Love Oct. 28
An evening of great music. A percentage of revenue will be donated for breast cancer screenings.

Trout Fishing in America Nov. 3

HOUSEHOLD HAZ WASTE DISPOSAL

Register now for household hazardous collection events on Saturday, Oct. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9 to 11 am at the Development Center, 206 W. Church St. next to City Hall. Registration is required. Call 972-237-8055 or register online at gptx.org/WQ/HHW. We will accept household and automotive batteries, motor oil, cooking oil, paints, aerosol cans, fluorescent bulbs, fertilizers, pools chemicals, and household cleaners. We will not accept explosives, gas cylinders, fireworks, medical waste, pharmaceuticals, radioactive materials or municipal trash. No commercial waste will be accepted.

FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

The City of Grand Prairie Solid Waste and Recycling division is hosting a free electronics recycling event on Saturday, Oct. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9-11 a.m. at the Development Center parking lot located at 206 W. Church St. Items accepted are computers, laptops, printers, VCRs, DVD players and TVs. Items that cannot be accepted are any hazardous material, liquids, broken monitor tubes, yard equipment, air conditioners and refrigerators. Registration is required and the event is open to Grand Prairie residents only (not businesses). Proof of residence in the form of a water bill or driver's license is required. Register at gptx.org/electronics-recycling or by calling 972-237-4578.

Grand Prairie residents (not businesses) can also bring their unwanted electronics to the landfill located at 1102 MacArthur Blvd for free during business hours. For more information on recycling electronics visit gptx.org/recycling.

POLICE EAGLE EYE CAMERA PROGRAM

Protect yourself, your family and your community by registering with the Grand Prairie Police Department's newest crime prevention and investigation tool, the Eagle Eye Camera Program. Surveillance videos recorded by cameras owned by residents and business owners have resulted in the arrests of numerous criminals. By voluntarily registering your contact information with GPPD, detectives will know how to reach you if a crime occurs in the vicinity of your property. Registering your information does not provide GPPD with direct access to your camera. Officers will only contact you if they believe your camera could contain evidence relevant to a criminal investigation.

Register online at gptx.org/police or call 972-237-8677.

FARMERS MARKET



Open every Saturday through December 16, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Grand Prairie Farmers Market features locally grown fruits and vegetables, meats, honey, pasta, spices, tamales, candles, soaps and more. For more information, call 972-237-4599 or visit gptx.org/farmersmarket.

Oct. 7 - Health Fair Day
Oct. 14 - Free Pumpkin Day
Oct. 21 - Chili Day
Oct. 28 - Octoberfest
Oct. 31 - Street N' Treat

SHRED IT DAY

Saturday, Oct. 14, 8 a.m.-11 a.m.
1525 Arkansas Lane

Onsite document shredding
Cost: \$5 per box or \$10 for 3 boxes
Box size: standard office size
No larger than 18" H x 11" W x 9" D
No plastic bags

All proceeds benefit the
Grand Prairie Crime Commission

FIGHT THE BITE

Keep in mind you'll keep seeing mosquitoes until temperatures consistently stay below 60 degrees.



- Pick up all beverage containers and cups
 - Remove old tires or drill holes in those used in playgrounds to drain
 - Remove yard debris such as grass clippings and piles of leaves
 - Change water in plant trays at least once a week
 - Clean out gutters
- gptx.org/FightTheBite



ADOPT-A-STREET WITH KEEP GP BEAUTIFUL

The Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful Commission invites you to keep Grand Prairie litter free by joining the KGPB Adopt-a-Street program. Participants may adopt one or more sections of roadway in Grand Prairie from a list of available streets. For each adoption, participants will be recognized by two "This street adopted by..." signs. Adoption contracts are for two years and require at least three cleanups per year for a total of six cleanups. Participants are also invited to our annual Adopt-a-Street Volunteer Appreciation Lunch in March. For more information or to adopt a street please visit gptx.org/kgpb/adopt-a-street or call 972-237-8152.

Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful offers many opportunities for citizens to become involved in their community throughout the year. Check out our web page at gptx.org/kgpb or call 972-237-8152 for more information about our programs and volunteer opportunities.

SENIOR PETS

Did you know that dogs and cats are considered seniors around age seven? Prairie Paws Adoption Center has several senior pets come through the doors, and we want to highlight how awesome seniors can be.

1. Senior dogs often already know basic commands such as sit, stay, etc.
2. Older dogs can still learn new tricks. They tend to have greater attention spans than puppies so they may be easier to train.
3. Older animals are generally calmer and less energetic than younger ones. They love to curl up on the couch and watch movies with you or go for a little stroll around the neighborhood.
4. They are usually already housebroken. Unlike puppies and kittens, older animals have already learned where they are supposed to go to the rest room and are also able to hold their bladders longer.
5. Age is not a disease! With good care and a loving home, they can live happy and healthy lives just like younger animals.

Many senior pets are often overlooked at shelters because people are drawn more to the cute puppies and kittens. If you are able to take a chance on an older pet, they will love you for the rest of their life. Adopt a pet at Prairie Paws Adoption Center, 2222 W. Warrior Trail or visit gptx.org/paws.



FLOOD SAFETY TIPS

Before the Flood:

1. Check with the Stormwater Department (972-237-8321) on the extent of past flooding in your area. Department staff can tell you about the causes of repetitive flooding, what the City is doing about it, and what would be an appropriate flood protection level. They can also visit your property to discuss flood protection alternatives.
2. Prepare for flooding by doing the following:
 - Know the flood safety guidance discussed later in this article.
 - Know how to shut off the electricity and gas to your house when a flood comes.
 - Make a list of emergency numbers and identify a safe place to go.
 - Make a household inventory.

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FIRED UP FOR READING

Saturday, Oct. 21,
10 a.m.-noon
Main Library, 901
Conover Dr.

Meet at the
Grand Prairie
Fire Department, check out their fire
trucks, learn about their equipment
and enjoy kid-friendly crafts.



LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.
October 17, 5-7:30 p.m.
Members Only Night
October 18-22, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

THANKSGIVING BREAK CAMP AT REC. CENTERS

November 20-22
Ages 5-12, \$16 per day
Register early. Spaces fill quickly.
Charley Taylor 972-264-6890
Dalworth: 972-237-4760
Shotwell: 972-237-7529

CASINO NIGHT

Saturday, Oct. 14, 7-10 p.m.
Lynn Creek Park
5610 Lake Ridge Parkway

Support GPISD's Career Technical Education Department by enjoying an evening of casino games. Proceeds from the event will go toward scholarships for GPISD students. Sponsored by the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce and Grand Prairie Parks, Arts and Recreation Department For sponsorship or ticket information email lynn@grandprairiechamber.org.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CELEBRATION

Join the Grand Prairie Genealogical Society as they celebrate 50 years.

Sunday, Oct. 29, 2-4 p.m.
Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

FLOOD SAFETY TIPS

Continued

- Put insurance policies, valuable papers, medicine, etc., in a safe place.
 - Develop a disaster response plan (See the Red Cross' Web site: www.redcross.org/services/disaster/ for a copy of the brochure "Your Family Disaster Plan").
3. Consider permanent flood protection measures.
 - Mark your fuse box to show the circuits to the floodable areas. Turning off the power to these floodable areas can reduce property damage (fires) and save lives. Consider flood protection alternatives such as flood walls or berms.
 - Note that some flood protection measures may require permits. Please check with the Stormwater Department and/or the Building Inspections Department for more information.
 - A copy of 'Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to Protect Your House from Flooding' are available at no charge to download from <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/480>.
 4. Talk to the Stormwater Department for information on potential financial assistance.
 - City staff can provide information on Federal or State grants or loans that homeowners might be able to pursue to elevate their buildings or to implement other flood-reduction measures.
 - Flood insurance provides financial assistance to recover from flood damages. Flood insurance can help pay for repairs after a flood and, in some cases, it can help pay the cost of elevating substantially damaged buildings.
 5. Get a flood insurance policy.
 - Standard homeowner's insurance policies do not cover flood damages.
 - Don't wait until the next flood to buy flood insurance protection. In most cases, there is a 30-day waiting period before the National Flood Insurance Program coverage takes effect.
 - Anyone can purchase flood insurance in Grand Prairie. Contact your insurance agent for more information on rates and coverage. If your insurance agent does not offer FEMA flood insurance, visit www.fema.gov/nfip to find a local agent who carries the flood insurance rider or call the Stormwater Department at 972-237-8321 for assistance.

During/After the flood:

- Ask a licensed electrician, plumber, etc., to check or turn on your power, water, and/or gas.
- Do not wade through flood waters due to the danger of pollutants, debris (nails, glass, etc.), and animals (snakes, ants, etc.).
- Flood waters are often murky and depth is hard to determine. Do not drive through flood waters! Turn around, don't drown!
- If emergency evacuation is necessary, please heed the warnings of the City's Office of Emergency Management and follow the instructions to evacuate - it saves lives of those around you and possibly of the emergency workers responding.
- Get a copy of 'Repairing Your Flooded Home,' which can be found on the Red Cross' website as well at www.redcross.org/services/disaster/

PHOTO CONTEST

Grand Prairie residents are invited to enter the 2018 City Calendar Photo Contest. Entries accepted through October 1, 2017. A panel of judges will select photos most appropriate for the 2018 City calendar.

Photo must feature Grand Prairie and be suitable for publication. Photos will be used in city publications. Credit will be attributed in calendar, but may not be possible in other publications and uses. Winning photos will be published in the calendar. No cash awards will be offered. Entrants must include name, address, email address and phone number with entry. Winners will be notified in November 2017. The calendar will be printed in December 2017.

Email or mail entries to:

Amy Sprinkles
Communications and Marketing
City of Grand Prairie
P.O. Box 534045
Grand Prairie, Texas 75053
asprinkles@gptx.org

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Saturday, Oct. 14, 6 p.m.
Grand Prairie Memorial
Gardens and Mausoleum
3001 S. Belt Line Road

Join this ceremony in remembrance of little bundles of joy who were gone too soon due to pregnancy loss or sudden infant death syndrome. RSVP to 972-237-3001 or lhidalgo@gptx.org.

SLOW DOWN MOVE OVER

State law requires drivers approaching a stationary emergency vehicle, including a tow trucks, to reduce speed and vacate the lane closest to the emergency vehicles. Please help protect our first responders.