

PRAIRIE LIGHTS 2018

Thanksgiving – Sunday, December 30
 5610 Lake Ridge Pkwy.
 The always-popular two-mile drive featuring four million lights will be better than ever in 2018 with new custom displays and brand-new attractions.

Times:
 Sunday – Thursday (non-holidays): 6-9 p.m.
 Friday, Saturday & Holidays: 6-10 p.m.
 *Cars must be in line by closing times to guarantee admission

Vehicle (General) Admission Fees:
 Monday-Thursday, non-holidays*, non-prime days**
 Cars/Family Vehicles - \$35
 Friday-Sunday, holidays*, and rimedays**
 Cars/Family Vehicles - \$45

*Holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
 **Prime Days: December 10-14 and 17-21

Carnival rides and an outdoor walk-thru at Holiday Village are now INCLUDED in your vehicle admission fee!

For more information, visit PrairieLights.org or Facebook.com/PrairieLights.

Grand Prairie PARKS, ARTS & RECREATION

Prairie Lights

HOLIDAY LIGHTS EXPERIENCE

\$5 OFF A VEHICLE

LYNN CREEK PARK @ JOE POOL LAKE

Valid Mondays-Thursdays, Non-Holidays Only | Not Valid With Any Other Offers Or Specials
 Redeem at Front Gate Of Event | Expires 12-6-18

FARMERS MARKET



The Farmers Market, 120 W. Main St., is open from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays. For info., call 972-237-4599 or visit gptx.org/farmersmarket.

Saturday, Dec. 8
 Holiday Gift Market

Saturday, Dec. 15
 Holiday Gift Market
 (Last market day of the 2018 season)

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Thursday, Dec. 6, 6 p.m.
 City Hall Campus, 317 College St.

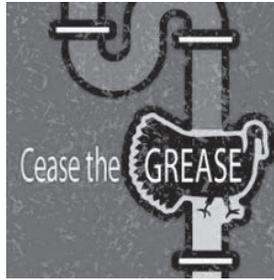
Have a very prairie Christmas in downtown Grand Prairie with our annual tree lighting, choir performances, photos with Santa and Christmas tree lighting. For info.: 972-237-8115.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION

There will be no garbage and recycling collection Tuesday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Jan. 1. The landfill will close at 3 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 24 and Monday, Dec. 31. There **will be** a special recycling collection for Tuesday residential curbside recyclers on Saturday, Dec. 29. Please place your recycling bins and blue bags on your curbside by 7 a.m. that morning to ensure collection.

CEASE THE TURKEY GREASE

Thanksgiving is a stressful time of the year for household drains. When poured down the drain, cooking oils, fats and grease solidify and clog pipes. When the pipe is blocked, raw sewage comes up through clean-outs or city manholes, contaminating the soil and waterways. Grease blockages are the single greatest cause of sewer overflows in Grand Prairie. When frying your turkey this year, this is what you can do with your frying oil.



You can keep oils and grease out of the sewer system by:

- Never pouring oil or grease down the drain.
- Disposing of food scraps in compost piles or the trash instead of the garbage disposal.
- Do not wait until the disposal is full to turn it on. Use plenty of water, and let it run for 20 or 30 seconds until it is clear.

The best option for disposing of used cooking oil and grease is to pour it into a container and take it to a household hazardous waste collection event so that it can be recycled into biofuel. Household and automotive batteries, motor oil, paint, aerosol cans, fluorescent bulbs, and household, landscape, and pool chemicals are also accepted. 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. Visit the website for a complete listing of accepted wastes and event dates.

FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

The City of Grand Prairie Solid Waste and Recycling division is hosting free electronics recycling events on Saturday, Dec. 1 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.



SANTA COP ACCEPTING GIFTS FOR HOLIDAYS

Santa Cop, sponsored by the Grand Prairie Police Department, continues to collect new unwrapped gift items for families. Items desperately needed are board games for ALL ages along with gifts for TEENS ages 13-16 years of age such as hair stuff, wallets, sports balls, remote control cars, watches, board games, books, arts/crafts. Toy guns are not accepted. All Grand Prairie fire stations, the Public Safety Building, City Hall, the Grand Prairie Credit Union and all Starbucks in Grand Prairie have drop off boxes. Collections will be received until after Christmas. Santa Cop accepts cash as well as digital donations at <https://gpsantacop.org>.

SHRED IT DAY

Saturday, Dec. 1, 8-11 a.m.

Between the Summit and
Public Safety Building
2559 Esplanade
\$5 per box

All proceeds benefit Crime Stoppers

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING LOCATIONS

Recycling drop
off for your tree (be-
ginning Wednesday,
Dec. 26, 2018-Thurs-
day, Jan. 10, 2019)
will be at the follow-
ing locations:



- Charley Taylor
Recreation Center
Parking lot
601 E. Grand Prairie Road
- Parkhill Park parking lot
5100 Block of S. Robinson Road
- Grand Prairie Landfill
1102 MacArthur Blvd.

Please remove all ornaments, stands and plastic bags. Artificial trees or trees sprayed with artificial snow cannot be accepted for recycling. Acceptable trees will be recycled into mulch. Free mulch is available at the landfill to all Grand Prairie residents. Trees may also be left at the curb on your normal garbage collection day. However, these trees will not be recycled into mulch and will be collected as garbage. For more information, please call 972-237-4566.

ACTIVE ADULT HEALTH FAIR

Friday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m.-noon • The
Summit, 2957 Esplanade

Residents ages 50 and older are invited
for free screenings and a tour of
The Summit

gptx.org/getfitgp

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU: HOW SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE AN EPIC IMPACT

The Epic | 2960 Epic Place | JoinTheEpic.com

The Epic, the brand-new fitness, arts and entertainment center, opens in November 2018 and is ready to be a part of your new year's resolutions.

Did you know you could reduce risk for sickness like heart disease and diabetes, just by being more physically active? Did you know you can reduce stress levels with art and music therapy? Recreation, in general, improves overall quality of life with a profound impact on social, emotional, mental and physical wellness. Here are five ways The Epic is the place to spend your winter break or the perfect gift to give to start 2019 off in many EPIC ways:

1. Health/Wellness: If your resolution revolves around getting in shape, we have personal training, group fitness classes, CrossFit, massage therapy and more.
2. Art: EpicArts will host a number of beginner art classes such as drawing, painting, printmaking and ceramics.
3. Music: Live music, a fully functional music recording studio and EpicRadioGP.com for local news and entertainment.
4. Sports: Basketball, volleyball, futsal (indoor soccer) and pickleball leagues, tournaments, and kids camps.
5. Culinary Kitchen - The Epic IKEA culinary kitchen will host a nutrition/cooking class that demonstrates how to make healthy, balanced meals.

Come by to take a tour, or become a member now at JoinTheEpic.com.

EPIC READS ALTERNATIVE LIBRARY

The Grand Prairie Library system's Epic Reads automatic library at The Epic, 2960 Epic Place, offers library card holders the ability to check out and return English and Spanish books, DVDs and audio books any time they are at The Epic. Much like a "Red Box," Epic Reads uses the swipe of a library card to access the customer's account and check out material to them. Library staff will provide concierge service during peak hours the first month of operation, then customers may get their library cards online, or at one of the three library offices:

Main Library, 901 Conover

Shotwell Library, 2759 Graham St

Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Road (closed for expansion until Feb. 2019)

"We are providing a good number of popular audio books that customers might like to listen to while they work out at The Epic," said Amy Sprinkles, Marketing, Communications and Libraries Director. "We also have a great selection of children, teen and adult material. We can adjust our collection as we see what is most popular at this location."

SNOW HO-HO HOLIDAY FUN

Fun crafts, photos with Santa, holiday performances and the Polar Express. Free of charge.

Saturday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-noon - Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Monday, Dec. 17, 4-6 p.m. - Shotwell Library, 2750 Graham St.

FEDERAL FUNDS HELP COMPLETE TRAIL



The Regional Transportation Council just approved \$9.08 million in federal funding for construction of 3.1 miles of the Fort Worth-to-Dallas Regional Veloweb Trail that will connect Fort Worth, Arlington, Grand Prairie, Irving and Dallas.

The approved section of the trail will connect the existing Mike Lewis Trail in Grand Prairie to the Trinity Railway Express Centreport/DFW Airport Station in Fort Worth and the River Legacy Trail in Arlington.

The cities of Fort Worth and Grand Prairie will manage design and construction of the 3.1-mile trail section. All sections of the regional trail are scheduled to be complete by 2023.

For more information, visit nctcog.org/FWtoDALTrail

UPTOWN THEATER

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



Nov. 30-Dec. 2, Dec. 7-9

Scrooge, The Musical

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council

The story of a stingy, bitter old man who is transformed into a more gentle and kind person. Adapted from the classic Charles Dickens tale, *A Christmas Carol*.

AVOID HOLIDAY HAZARDS

Celebrating Safe And Sound

Before you make merry, make sure you know how to keep yourself and your family safe during the holidays. Follow the tips below for a brighter (watch those candles!) holiday season.

Fire Safety

Holidays are usually filled with more cooking, home decorating and entertaining—not to mention an increased risk of fire. To protect yourself and your family, follow these safety tips:

Holiday Decorating and Lighting

- Choose decorations made of flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials when possible.
- Keep candles away from decorations and Christmas trees.
- Before plugging in lights, check for damage.
- Don't overload extension cords.
- Don't pierce light string cords with clips or nails when hanging.
- Keep children and pets away from electrical decorations.
- Make sure to turn off light strings and decorations and blow out candles before leaving the house or going to bed.
- Make sure live greenery is fresh. Keep dried out trees and garland away from open flames.

Holiday Entertaining

- Keep an eye on the stove and oven while chatting with visitors.
- Ask visitors to smoke outside and use ashtrays.
- Keep matches and lighters away from children.
- Place candles on non-flammable surfaces and away from drafts.
- Don't keep candles burning for more than a few hours at a time.
- Test your smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms before any gathering.
- Let guests know what your fire escape plan is.

Holiday Heating

- Make sure any space heater you buy carries the mark of an independent testing lab (look for a tag or sticker).
- Maintain a 36-inch clearance between space heaters and anything flammable.
- Turn off space heaters when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Make sure the flue is open before starting a fire in the fireplace.
- Have solid-fueled heating equipment inspected annually by a professional.
- Use seasoned wood to reduce sap build-up in your chimney.
- Use a fireplace screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
- Place fireplace and woodstove ashes in a metal container.
- Test smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms monthly.

If you have questions, contact Grand Prairie's Office of Emergency Management at 972-237-8333 or email: oem@gptx.org.

CRAFT AND WINE

Friday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m. • Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Come to the library and create a beautiful holiday wreath during this after-hours program. Entry fee is \$5 cash only. All participants must be 21 or older. Registration is required by email to kolabode@gptx.org.

GP MAINTAINS FLOOD INSURANCE RATING

The City of Grand Prairie has been given a Community Rating System (CRS) score of 5 by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), allowing for a 25 percent discount on FEMA flood insurance policies for residents who live in special flood hazard areas. All property owners and renters can purchase flood insurance to protect their property and belongings.

The City of Grand Prairie participates in the CRS program and submits an annual update to FEMA. Cities that participate in CRS activities, and exceed minimum requirements receive discounted insurance premium rates when they have met the goals of the program, which include reducing flood loss, facilitating accurate insurance ratings and promoting the awareness of flood insurance.

CRS annual reports are available on the City of Grand Prairie's website at <https://www.gptx.org/city-government/city-departments/planning-development/floodplain>

The following City of Grand Prairie reports are available:

- Floodplain Management Plan 2015-2020 <https://www.gptx.org/home/showdocument?id=14279>
- CRS Floodplain Management Plan Annual Report 2018 <https://www.gptx.org/home/showdocument?id=16646>
- CRS Coverage Improvement Plan Annual Report 2018 <https://www.gptx.org/home/showdocument?id=16652>

ACTION PARK GP FREE FOR RESIDENTS

Action Park GP, 1002 Lone Star Parkway is now free for residents. For more information, visit ActionParkGP.com or call 972-262-4479.