

## MAIN STREET FEST APRIL 24-25

The City of Grand Prairie Parks, Arts & Recreation Department is hosting the 4th Annual Main Street Fest Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25. The festival will celebrate the fun, festive, family atmosphere of Grand Prairie with LIVE! music featuring headlining performances, spectacular BMX/skate street shows, local entertainment, carnival rides, arts & crafts area, business expo, food and beer gardens, a KIDZONE and so much more! For more information, visit [MainStreetFest.com](http://MainStreetFest.com)



## I-30 PARK AND RIDE

The park and ride facility at eastbound Interstate



30, just east of Belt Line Road in Grand Prairie, is now open. The facility provides parking for commuters who wish to carpool and leave their cars parked for the day. Carpoolers from the park and ride will have easy access to I-30 HOV lanes, which are scheduled to open in 2016. The park and ride was a joint venture between the Regional Transportation Council, City of Grand Prairie and the Texas Department of Transportation. The city added a 233-foot "Prairie Ribbon" mural made of recycled glass tiles to the east retaining wall.

## LARGE PRINT BOOKS

The Grand Prairie Library recently added more than 200 new Large Print books to its collection, with most of those finding their permanent home at the Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Some of the new titles include:

*The Escape*, by David Baldacci

*Mean Streak*, by Sandra Brown

*Personal*, by Lee Child

*Command Authority*, by Tom Clancy

*The Cinderella Murder*, by Mary Higgins Clark

*The Lost Key*, by Catherine Coulter

Many of these new large print books are also available as ebooks. Search and download ebooks at <http://gptx.lib.overdrive.com>. For more info., call 972-237-5700.

## UNLIMITED LANDFILL VISITS AT TRASH OFF

Clean house and get rid of your junk during the next Trash Off at the Grand Prairie Landfill on Saturday, April 4. Residents are allowed an unlimited number of trips to the landfill on this special day from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Proof of residence in the form of a current water bill or driver's license is required.

Trash Off is a great way to dispose of all those bulky items that won't fit in the garbage!

Special Fee Information

- We will accept automobile tires from residential households for a \$1 disposal fee, up to 4 tires per visit. Disposal fees of \$5 or \$10 are required for larger tractor/trailer tires.
- We accept computers, printers and fax machines.
- Construction and roofing material will be accepted from commercial businesses for a fee of \$32 per ton. (Contractors may not use this day to avoid paying Landfill fees).

Call 972-237-8330 for more information.

## SPRING BREAK CAMP

Campers ages 6-12 years old will participate in fun field trips, games, and arts and



crafts March 9-13, 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at Charley Taylor Recreation Center, 601 E. Grand Prairie Road; Dalworth Recreation Center, 2012 Spikes St.; or Shotwell Life Center, 2750 Graham St. Each camper must bring a lunch, but snacks will be provided in the morning and afternoon. Cost for the camp is \$16 per child per day. Space is limited, so register now! For more information, call:

Charley Taylor -972-264-6890

Dalworth - 972-237-4760

Shotwell - 972-237-7529

## COMING SOON TO THE UPTOWN THEATER



Enjoy spectacular shows at Grand Prairie's Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main St. **For the latest Uptown Theater news and offers, text "UPTN" to 97755.** For tickets, visit [uptowntheatergp.com](http://uptowntheatergp.com) or call 972-237-8786.

### *The Grascals*

Bluegrass and country music

March 7

### *Into the Woods*

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council

March 20-22, 27-29

## HOUSEHOLD WASTE EVENT APRIL 11

Our next HHW events will be Saturday, March 7 and Saturday, April 11, 9-11 a.m., at the Development Center located at 206 West Church Street. We will accept household and automotive batteries, 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. To register or get more information, please visit our website at [gptx.org/WQ/HHW](http://gptx.org/WQ/HHW) or call 972-237-8055.

## CELEBRATE DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY MARCH 2

I like to read; oh yes I do.

I like to read; I'll read with you.

Follow me and you will see,

The library is fun for you and me.

Join your libraries as we celebrate Read Across America and Dr. Seuss's birthday March 2 all day with special story times, giveaways, a photo selfie booth, costumes, cookies and more! For more info., visit, [gptx.org/library](http://gptx.org/library).

## THE SOPRANOS - SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PET

So, you got this dog or cat and you don't spay or neuter it, then bada bing, bada boom, you got litters and the Grand Prairie Prairie Paws Animal Shelter has more and more unwanted animals. Let's take care of it now, not later.

Neutering your pet hits these other high notes:

- Spaying will eliminate nervous pacing and yowling while in heat
- Neutering will reduce aggressive behavior, urine marking and roaming
- Spaying/neutering reduces the risk of certain cancers, infections and other illnesses, which are fatal in about 50 percent of dogs and 90 percent of cats
- Neutered pets lead longer, happier and healthier lives
- Spaying/neutering will NOT increase your pet's risk of becoming overweight
- Spaying/neutering costs much less than caring for a litter and vet visits to treat injuries caused by roaming or fighting
- Spaying/neutering helps fight pet overpopulation and helps save lives

Don't forget about it - spay or neuter now.



## RAIN BARREL CLASS

Please join the Public Works Department on Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.-noon, for the "Make It and Take It Rainwater Barrel Class" at the Public Works Training Center, 317 N. Belt Line Road.



This hands-on class teaches residents how to construct a rain barrel, which they will take home to recycle rain water for gardening and lawn care.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited. The cost of the class and materials is \$40 for Grand Prairie residents and \$55 for non-residents.

For class registration, and for payment information, please call 972-237-8377.

## PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR

Photographer and writer Don Smarto will present free photography seminars at the Grand Prairie libraries.

- Saturday, March 6, 2 p.m. – Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Rd.
- Tuesday, March 9, 6 p.m. – Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Smarto's seminars are an interesting behind-the-scenes look at the stories behind the photographs in his latest book, *Heaven in a Wildflower*. For more information, call 972-237-5700.

## MASTER COMPOSTERS

Master Composter training is Saturday, April 11. There is a \$25 registration fee for Grand Prairie residents and \$40 fee for non-residents. Participants will receive the *Rodale Book of Composting* and lunch. For info. or to register online, visit: [gptx.org/composting](http://gptx.org/composting) or call 972-237-4566.

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT! FROM PRAIRIE LIGHTS

Thanks for your support of the most successful Prairie Lights ever! More than 194,000 visitors attended the drive-through holiday light park this year.

We appreciate each of the following organizations for providing a night of volunteers to help keep Prairie Lights friendly and inviting to all of our guests:

- Grand Prairie High School AVID team
- Dubiski High School AVID team
- United Realty and Associates- Chris Brickman team
- City of Grand Prairie Legal Department
- City of Grand Prairie Code Enforcement
- GPHS National Honor Society
- Guns & Hoses
- GRAND Rangers
- Grand Prairie Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association
- Grand Prairie Metro Rotary Club
- Grand Prairie Rotary
- City of Grand Prairie Engineering Department
- Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1013
- City of Grand Prairie Fire Department/ Hearts and Hoses
- The Woods United Methodist Church
- Dubiski High School National Honor Society
- Dubiski Business Professionals of America (BPA)
- Overflow Church
- Dubiski High School- DECA
- City of Grand Prairie Planning and Development
- Century 21 Judge Fite Realty
- Grand Prairie Maverick Rugby
- Dubiski National Honor Society
- South Grand Prairie National Honor Society
- GP Police Department- Civilian Employees
- GP Police- Criminal Investigation Division
- Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce Branding Irons
- Grand Prairie Demolay
- Christian Women Job Corps
- Relay For Life
- Skills USA
- Dubiski Student Council
- Loyd Park Volunteers
- City of Grand Prairie Transportation Department

## EASTER EGG SWIM AT KIRBY CREEK

Bring the kids for an easter egg extravaganza on Saturday, April 4. 1-3 p.m. at Kirby Creek Natatorium, 3201 Corn Valley Dr. Enjoy an easter egg hunt in the heated indoor pool, face painting and a bounce house. Cost is \$3 per person (children younger than 2 are free). Parents may swim with their children. For more information, call 972-263-8174.

## ITTY BITTY TRIATHLON

Children ages 3-5 begin the course with a walk through the sprinklers, bike or tricycle, and run to the finish line on Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m. at Charley Taylor Recreation Center, 601 E. Grand Prairie Rd. For info. call 972-264-6890.

[gptx.org](http://gptx.org) | [YouTube.com/cityofgptx](http://YouTube.com/cityofgptx) | [Facebook/grandprairie](https://www.facebook.com/grandprairie) | [Twitter\(@gp\\_tx\)](https://twitter.com/gp_tx)

## NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

Grand Prairie offers a variety of great ways to observe National Nutrition Month, from the opening of the Farmers Market, to gardening classes, to healthy recipes and shopping tips on the Get Fit GP website. A balanced diet rich in fruits and vegetables helps to maintain a healthy weight, and helps to reduce your risk of contracting many diseases. Fruits and vegetables are naturally low in saturated fat and high in vitamins, minerals, and cancer-protective phytochemicals and antioxidants. Fruits and vegetables are cholesterol-free, and the high fiber content can help to lower blood cholesterol levels and prevent heart disease. By growing your own, or buying locally grown produce, you can ensure better tasting, fresher food. In addition, you avoid the environmental impact associated with transporting food from across the country or around the world. Learn more, and enter to win prizes at [gptx.org/GetFitGP](http://gptx.org/GetFitGP).



**LONE STAR PARK**  
*at Grand Prairie®*

**SEASON OPENS APRIL 9**

1st Race 6:35 p.m.  
LoneStarPark.com (972) 263-RACE  
1000 Lone Star Parkway  
Grand Prairie

**STAY CONNECTED!** **GPTEXAS.COM**

1-800-288-8FUN

Like Us [fb.com/gptexas](https://www.facebook.com/gptexas) Follow Us [twitter.com/gp\\_tourism](https://twitter.com/gp_tourism)

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK**  
**AT THE SUMMIT**  
**7 P.M. FRIDAY NIGHTS - APRIL**

## FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

Flood Safety Awareness Week is March 15-21. The springtime is the perfect time to remind our citizens of the inherent dangers associated with flooding. The City of Grand Prairie has some creeks that have a history of flash flooding, meaning that they flood quickly and with little advanced warning. "Tornadoes are impressive, but flash flooding takes more lives each year than any other severe weather related hazard. Only six inches of fast moving water holds enough force to knock over an adult, and only two feet of water will carry away most vehicles...even pickups and SUVs. Whenever you encounter high water, and especially during flash flood warnings, Turn Around Don't Drown. Never underestimate the power of water."

- SOURCE: Mark Fox, NWS Fort Worth

The National Weather Service and the Texas Division of Emergency Management encourage people to learn the dangers of driving into flooded roadways through the "Turn Around, Don't Drown" (or TADD™) campaign.

Flash Flood Safety Tips:

- Get out of areas subject to flooding, like dips, low spots, canyons, washes, etc.
- Avoid already flooded and high-velocity flow areas; don't attempt to cross a flowing stream.
- Never drive through flooded roadways in case the roadbed is no longer intact.
- If your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Be cautious at night when it's harder to recognize flood dangers.
- Don't camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions.

Additional information on Flood Safety Awareness, please see the following websites:

<http://www.knowwhat2do.com/think/flood>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/srh/tadd/>

<https://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/threatawareness/tadd.htm>

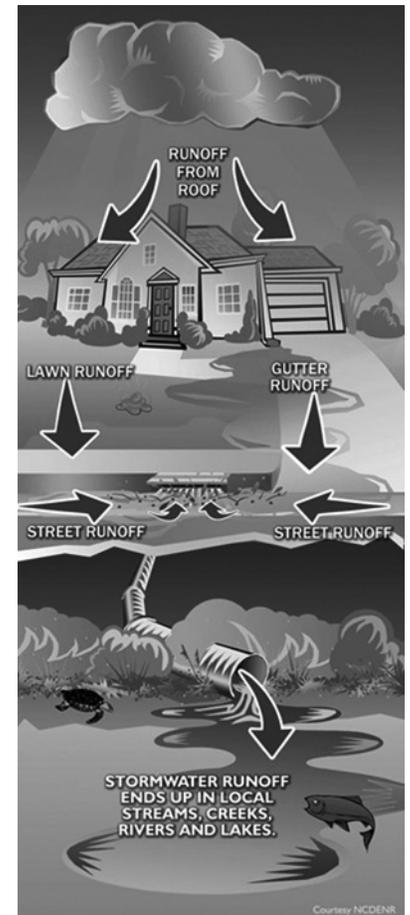
<http://www.gptx.org/index.aspx?page=1007>

Please also visit the Emergency Preparedness website, [knoWhat2Do.com](http://www.knoWhat2Do.com) for more information on how to Think.Prepare.Act. during an emergency or contact the Office of Emergency Management via email at [oem@gptx.org](mailto:oem@gptx.org) or by phone at 972-237-8333.



## STORM INLETS AND POLLUTION

Did you know that storm inlets discharge directly into our creeks, rivers, and lakes? Unlike the wastewater we send down drains or toilets, stormwater doesn't get treated and cleaned before it empties into our waterbodies. This means that all of the pollutants on the ground - like fertilizers, motor oil, pet waste, trash, etc. - end up in our creeks, rivers and lakes. Not only do wildlife live in our creeks, rivers and lakes, but Grand Prairie residents swim in and get their drinking water from these waterbodies! Please protect our water; don't pollute! [gptx.org/EnvironmentalQuality/Stormwater](http://gptx.org/EnvironmentalQuality/Stormwater)



## FREE TAX HELP

Volunteers from AARP will be providing free tax assistance to low-income and elderly residents Mondays and Wednesdays, now-April 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Grand Prairie Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Please bring last year's tax return, as well as any 1099's and W-2s. For more information, call 972-237-5700 or visit [gptx.org/library](http://gptx.org/library).