

## COVID-19 VACCINE

The supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States is currently limited. Visit the city's website at [gptx.org/covid-19](http://gptx.org/covid-19) for the following information:

- General vaccine information
- Information on your phase and when you qualify to receive the vaccine
- County links to register for the vaccine
- State of Texas provider locations link, which shows providers who have physically received vaccines within Texas



The [gptx.org/covid-19](http://gptx.org/covid-19) web page is updated on a consistent basis as new information is received.

## NEW COLLISION BARRIERS FOR FIRE TRUCKS

In response to the growing number of highway incidents involving first responders, the Grand Prairie Fire Department (GPF) has outfitted two of its reserved apparatuses with truck-mounted attenuators (TMAs) to serve as temporary traffic control and advance warning signals for motorists during the early stages of highway traffic incidents.



“The application of innovative technology to incident response operations showcases the department’s commitment to improving the safety of our first responders and motorists on roadways,” says GPF Fire Chief Robert Fite. According to the National Fire Protection Association, fire truck accidents rank as the second leading cause of on-the-job deaths for firefighters.

In 2019, the Emergency Responder Safety Institute reported 44 first re-

*Continued on page 4*

## COVID-19 TESTING SITES

For COVID-19 testing sites and vaccine information in and around Grand Prairie, visit [gptx.org/covid-19](http://gptx.org/covid-19).

## TEXT 911 IS NOW AVAILABLE IN GP

If you are unable to call 911, you can text 911 with your emergency and address/location. When seconds count, our 911 team is ready to respond. Please know that our 911 text system cannot accept pictures, videos or audio clips.



## ONLINE WATER PAYMENT UPGRADE

City of Grand Prairie Water Utility Customer Service is pleased to offer an improved



online payment system coming in February 2021. This upgrade will feature a wider selection of payment methods and options for your convenience and flexibility.

Existing profiles will carry over to the new upgraded platform using your current sign on credentials; however, it is important to note that **it will be necessary to re-establish Auto Pay and/or Paperless Billing features as these will not carry over.**

Should you have any questions, please contact one of our Customer Care Representatives at 972-237-8200.

## FREE MY HEALTH PASSPORT

The Get Fit Grand Prairie community health initiative is offering a free “My Health Passport” for all Grand Prairie residents pursuing a healthier lifestyle in 2021. Through partnerships with local businesses, the passport includes free gym day passes, dining discounts, massage sessions and much more! To print your copy of the passport, go to [gptx.org/myhealthpassport](http://gptx.org/myhealthpassport).



## FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Saturday, March 6 and Saturday, April 10, 9-11 a.m.

City Hall East, 300 W. Main St.

Registration is required at: [gptx.org/electronics-recycling](http://gptx.org/electronics-recycling) or 972-237-8159



**Accepted:** computers, laptops, printers, VCRs, DVD players, TVs (no exposed parts please), cellphones

**Not accepted:** hazardous materials, liquids, broken monitor tubes, yard equipment, air conditioners, refrigerators

Grand Prairie residents can also bring their recyclables to the landfill any time Monday-Saturday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Saturday, March 6 and Saturday, April 10, 9-11 a.m.

City Hall East, 300 W. Main St.

Registration is required at: 972-237-8055 or online at [gptx.org/WQ/HHW](http://gptx.org/WQ/HHW).



## UPCOMING LIBRARY PROGRAMS

### Library Spring Break Programs - March 8-11

Look for fun, virtual children's programs all week long at the library featuring the Dallas Zoo, the Dallas Museum of Art and kits to pick up for corresponding programs each day of the week!



### New Library Social Worker

Make an appointment with our new library social worker for help with parenting in a pandemic, coping with anxiety, navigating social services or guidance locating necessary resources. Email Anne Marie at [aholstead@gptx.org](mailto:aholstead@gptx.org) for an appointment or more info.

### Badges and Books - Saturday March 27, 10 a.m.

All ages | Via Facebook

Join us for a special Badges and Books where we bring the police action to you! Tune into the Grand Prairie Libraries Facebook page to see and learn about the different departments within the Grand Prairie Police Department and check out their awesome gear and equipment!

### Kiwi Crate Fun: Arcade - Thursday April 1, 4:30 p.m.

Grades 1-5 | Via Zoom

Create your own arcade with Kiwi Crate's all in one kit! Supplies are limited, one kit per family. Please register with Jennifer Lusk, [jllusk@gptx.org](mailto:jllusk@gptx.org).

## BAG THE BAG! GRAB THE BIN!

Curbside recycling will no longer be collected in blue bags. Place all recyclables loose in your green recycling bin.

Blue recycling bags have been popular for years, but hinder the recycling process by causing tangles and wrapping around equipment at the recycling facility. Plastic bags can damage the machines and cause the sorting process to shut down. Residents can use any remaining blue bags for regular trash collection.

One 18-gallon green bin per household is supplied by the city. This can be picked up at the city's landfill, 1102 MacArthur Blvd. Monday-Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and additional bins can be purchased for \$5 each (limit 2).

Questions? Email [recycling@gptx.org](mailto:recycling@gptx.org) or call 972-237-8061.



## FREE ONLINE JOB NOW COACHING

JobNow is a free service from the Grand Prairie Libraries that offers online skill building lessons, test prep, and daily live online chat with job search specialists. JobNow has financial aid experts that can help guide you through filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Now, library users have access to a live unemployment benefits navigator, who can assist with the process and provide links to online resources.

Job coaches are available daily 2 p.m.- 11 p.m.; other experts have more limited schedules. To get started, visit the library's webpage at [gptx.org/library](http://gptx.org/library), and scroll down to the JobNow button.

## NEW FIRE STATION 3



Construction on the new Fire Station No. 3 and training facility at Marshall and State Highway 161 is underway. The new 19,538-square-foot station will feature four bays for an engine, ambulance and truck, living quarters, adjacent classrooms and offices. The station will house 10-12 firefighters, and 3-4 will office on the training side. The new building will replace the existing Fire Station No. 3 on 1702 Robinson Road and is scheduled to be complete in spring 2021.

## INSURE YOUR PROPERTY FOR FLOOD

**DID YOU KNOW?** ...Following the 2015 Grand Prairie flood events, 90 percent of flood damages reported to the city were outside the FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)/Floodplain.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?** ...Insure Your Property and Contents from Flood Damage

The City of Grand Prairie participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Homeowners in SFHA must buy flood insurance if they have a mortgage from a federally regulated lender. Homes located outside the SFHA can buy flood insurance. Approximately 25 percent of structures that flood each year belong to policyholders whose properties are not located in a SFHA.

Not all insurance agents offer this rider. Those who do offer the rider have agreed to provide the insurance coverage at a specific rate determined by FEMA. This means that you do not have to "shop around" to get the best deal. The cost will be the same no matter which insurance company you choose.

### Flood Insurance Facts:

- Typically, a 30-day waiting period is required when purchasing a new policy.
- Flood insurance is sold through private insurance companies and agents and is backed by the federal government.
- Insurance rates are based on your property's flood zone and its risk of being flooded.
- Standard homeowner insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. A specific FEMA flood insurance rider must be purchased through an insurance agent to obtain this protection.
- Because the City of Grand Prairie participates in the NFIP, Flood insurance is available for all properties located in the city.
- If you're renting a home or apartment, flood insurance contents coverage is available from the NFIP to protect your valuables and belongings.

For more information about obtaining flood insurance for both your structure and belongings, contact your insurance agent or visit: [www.fema.gov/nfip](http://www.fema.gov/nfip)



The Clean Prairie Art Contest is open to all ages and all forms of art are accepted. For complete contest guidelines, visit [gptx.org/cleanprairie](http://gptx.org/cleanprairie) or call 972-237-8055.

## LUXURY YURTS AT LOYD PARK

Enjoy one of the most popular glamping experiences conveniently located in the heart of DFW. Amenities include an above-ground propane fire pit on a paved seating area with outdoor furniture, walk-in shower with rain shower head, quartz countertops, cooktop and microwave, satellite TV, high-end luxury furniture, queen bed, skylight, heat and air conditioning, private deck, and much more!

For more information, visit [LoydPark.com](http://LoydPark.com).

## BE KIND TO NEIGHBORS



- Keep music at a reasonable volume in your property or in your car, especially when driving through neighborhoods
- Refrain from letting your dog bark outside for a lengthy amount of time
- Do not block sidewalks with your car or park in front of your neighbor's home
- Maintain your yard, fence and home. It helps the neighborhood look better!
- Keep pets contained in yards and on leashes

## COLLISION BARRIERS

From page 1

sponders were struck and killed by vehicles. The number of near misses and injuries is higher but unknown.

A first of its kind in the nation mounted on fire apparatus, the Scorpion TMAs developed by Traffix Devices Inc. contain TXDOT-approved collision barriers designed to protect the motorist upon impact. They meet all required crash testing as defined by the Manual for Accessing Safety Hardware (MASH). MASH presents uniform guidelines for crash testing permanent and temporary highway safety features developed by the American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials. Federal and State Departments of transportation adopt the MASH standards to improve highway workers and motorists' safety.

"You are not only protecting the lives of firefighters but also the lives of distracted drivers," said Jim Marshall, vice president of Marketing for Traffix Devices, Inc. "Our Scorpion attenuator will take the impact, attenuate the energy and, in most cases, the host vehicle can go with no damage or minimal damage in a crash."

The use of TMAs on fire apparatus provides cost savings for municipalities and taxpayers. The average cost to replace a frontline fire truck can reach up to \$1.1 million, not to mention the out-of-service time and personnel injury and disability costs involved. In comparison, the cost of outfitting one TMA apparatus is approximately \$34,000, and under \$20,000 to replace the TMA device. To assist with the outfitting and modification of GPF's reserve fire trucks, the department partnered with Travis McCain of Gulf Highway Equipment, an attenuator program and installation expert, and the only company currently authorized to install TMAs on fire apparatus.

# AVOID\*SPOT\*TREAT

## FROSTBITE & HYPOTHERMIA

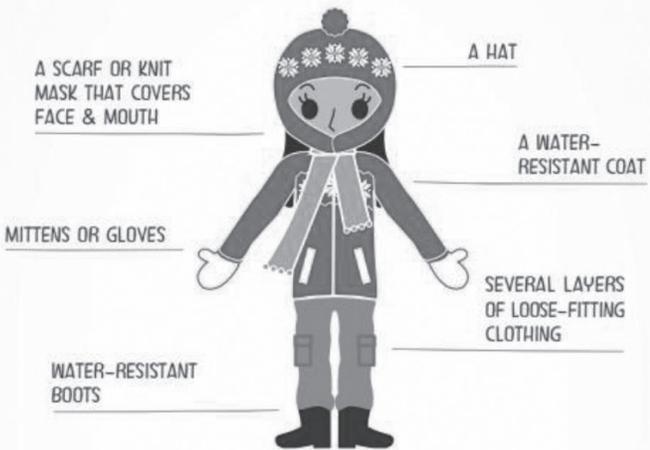
In cold temperatures, your body begins to lose heat faster than it can be produced, which can lead to serious health problems.

Questions? Contact the Office of Emergency Management at 972-237-8333 or [oem@gptx.org](mailto:oem@gptx.org)

### \* \*\* \* \*\* AVOID \* \*\* \* \*\*

When the weather is extremely cold, try to stay indoors. If you must go outside, **dress properly** and know who is at **high risk** for **hypothermia** or **frostbite**.

When going outside be sure to wear:



A HAT  
A WATER-RESISTANT COAT  
SEVERAL LAYERS OF LOOSE-FITTING CLOTHING  
WATER-RESISTANT BOOTS  
MITTENS OR GLOVES  
A SCARF OR KNIT MASK THAT COVERS FACE & MOUTH

When going outside in winter make sure body parts most often affected by frostbite are covered in warm, dry clothing.



NOSE EARS TOES CHEEKS CHIN FINGERS

Know who is at high risk:



Older adults without proper food, clothing, or heating  
People who stay outdoors for long periods (homeless, hikers, hunters, etc.)  
People who drink alcohol in excess or use illicit drugs  
Babies sleeping in cold rooms

Grand Prairie  
TEXAS  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## SPRING BREAK AT EPICWATERS

Enjoy a fun month full of daily activities, food and drink specials, and so much more! Open every day from March 4-22, and March 25-29. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [EpicWatersGP.com](http://EpicWatersGP.com).