

# Prairie Lights

Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 25) –  
 New Year’s Eve (Thursday, December 31)  
 Lynn Creek Park, 5610 Lake Ridge Pkwy.

Prairie Lights is a premier holiday drive-through park in north Texas featuring more than 4 million lights at Lynn Creek Park on Joe Pool Lake. Visitors will be amazed with the brand-new light display experiences that will make this Christmas season one to remember! Plus, Holiday Village returns this year featuring the Lighted Walk-Through Forest, photos with Santa, carnival rides, and seasonal eats and treats!

Hours of Operation: Every day: 6 p.m.-10 p.m.  
 \*Cars must be in line by closing times to guarantee admission

Family Vehicle (General) Admission Fees: Every day: \$40

Want to beat the long lines? Pre-purchase a Fast Pass and skip the line!

For more information about this year's event and to purchase tickets, visit [PrairieLights.org](http://PrairieLights.org), or follow us on social media:

[Facebook.com/PrairieLights/](https://www.facebook.com/PrairieLights/)  
[instagram.com/PrairieLights/](https://www.instagram.com/PrairieLights/)  
[twitter.com/PrairieLights](https://twitter.com/PrairieLights)

## FARMERS MARKET



Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. • Market Square, 120 W. Main St.

The Grand Prairie Farmers Market at Market Square is open Saturdays and features locally grown fruits and vegetables, baked goods, tamales, salsas, dips, relishes, eggs, honey and more. **The Farmers Market will be closed on Saturday, Nov. 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.** Saturday, Dec. 11 is the last day of the 2021 Farmers Market season. For more information: 972-237-4599 or [gptx.org/farmersmarket](http://gptx.org/farmersmarket).

## GARBAGE AND RECYCLING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There will be no garbage or curbside recycling collection on: Thursday, Nov. 25; Saturday, Dec. 25 and Saturday Jan. 1.

1. Please set out your garbage and/or recycling on your next regularly scheduled collection day.



## COUNCIL MEMBER EZEONU TOWN HALL MEETING

Town Hall Meeting  
 Wednesday, Dec. 8, 6-8 p.m.  
 Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Join Council Member Junior Ezeonu for a City Council Place 8 At-Large Town Hall Meeting to address community interests concerning the City of Grand Prairie.

## CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Because of shifts in Grand Prairie’s population and demographics, the city is beginning a process to redistrict its six city council districts. The public is invited to attend:

**Thursday, Dec. 9 at 5 p.m.**  
 Public Hearing

**Thursday, Dec. 9 at 5:30 p.m.**  
 Work Session

**Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 5:30 p.m.**  
 Work Session  
 City Council Chambers  
 300 W. Main St.

The City Council will adopt the redistricting plan at its Jan. 4, 2022 meeting.

City Council districts are intended to reflect equalized populations. Therefore, their sizes and shapes must be redefined every 10 years to reflect population growth or decline and other demographic changes. Redistricting, then, is the process of redrawing district boundaries to guarantee equal voter representation through equal, or equivalent, population counts.

## FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Saturday, Dec. 4, 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, Dec. 4, 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).

No commercial waste will be accepted.



## DECEMBER HOLIDAY CAMP

Charley Taylor Recreation Center, 601 E. Grand Prairie Rd.

**Dec. 20-23 (Mon-Thurs) • Time: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Ages 6 years and older

Fee: One time \$7 membership fee and \$10 registration plus \$80 per week per child for residents, \$96 per week per child for non-residents.

**December 28-31 (Tue-Fri) • Time: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Ages 6 years and older

Fee: \$7 membership fee and \$10 registration plus \$80 per week per child for residents, \$96 per week per child for non-residents.

We provide a snack, but participants must bring own sack lunch. Call Charley Taylor Recreation for more information at 972-339-3770.

## PRAIRIE PAWS HOLIDAY EVENTS

**Santa Paws Sleepover**

Thursday, Dec. 23-Tuesday, Dec. 28 Registration  
begins Friday, Dec. 3. [gptx.org/paws](http://gptx.org/paws)

**Fill Their Stockings Donation Drive**

Wednesday, Dec. 1-Thursday, Dec. 23 [gptx.org/paws](http://gptx.org/paws)

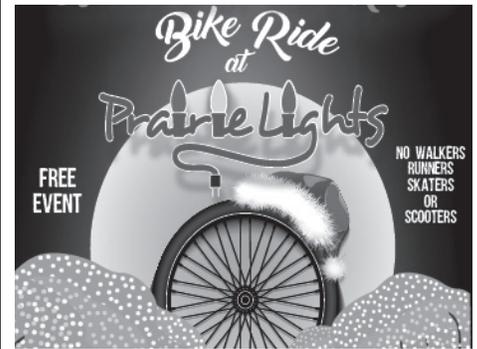


## MY HEALTH PASSPORT

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 2022. Through partnerships with local businesses, the passport includes free gym day passes, dining discounts, and much more! To print your copy of the passport, go to [gptx.org/myhealthpassport](http://gptx.org/myhealthpassport).



## CYCLIN' WITH THE MAYOR



Monday, Nov. 22 • Gates open at  
4:45 p.m. and close at 5:45 p.m.

Ride begins at 6 p.m.

Lynn Creek Park, 5610 Lake Ridge

Join Mayor Jensen for a ride  
through Prairie Lights.

## CANDLE LIGHT MEMORIAL

Saturday, Dec. 4  
Begins at 5:30 p.m.

Drive through memorial service  
Grand Prairie Memorial Gardens  
3001 S. Belt Line Road

The Candle Light Memorial Drive Through will include beautifully lit lanterns and luminaries placed throughout the cemetery in honor of your loved one. Please stop by the tent at the end of this unique in-car experience to receive your annual Christmas ornament, memorial brochure, and candle. Please RSVP no later than Monday, Nov. 29 by email to [gpmg.intern@gptx.org](mailto:gpmg.intern@gptx.org) or call 972-237-3001.

## SNOW HO HO

Saturday, Dec. 11  
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Road

Children and their families are invited for holiday crafts and activities. Meet our special guest—the Gingerbread Man—and take a ride on the Polar Express! Please visit <https://bit.ly/3y3qBkB> to register starting Nov. 27.

## UPTOWN THEATER

Enjoy spectacular shows at Grand Prairie's Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main St. For tickets and information, call 972-237-8786 or visit [uptowntheatergp.com](http://uptowntheatergp.com):

### Elf - The Musical

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council  
Dec. 3-5 and Dec. 10-12

### The Nutcracker Untapped

Featuring the Rhythmic Souls Tap Company  
Monday, Dec. 20. Shows begin at noon and 2 p.m.



## HOLIDAY FIRE AND HAZARDS SAFETY

Don't let holiday hazards ruin your celebration! This time of year brings cooking, home decorating, and entertaining – not to mention the increased risk of fire. Help keep your family and home safe with these tips:

- Don't leave open flames like candles or a fireplace unattended.
- Keep an eye on the stove and oven while chatting with visitors.
- Protect children and pets from potential hazards such as sharp objects, boiling water, choking hazards, and open flames.
- Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms before any gathering.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen and know how to operate it if necessary.
- Maintain clearance between space heaters and anything flammable. Be sure to turn them off when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Don't overload extension cords or pierce light strings with nails when hanging.
- Choose decorations made of flame-resistant, flame-retardant, or non-combustible materials when possible.

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

## STRAY CAT TRAP, NEUTER RETURN PROGRAM

### What is the Trap-Neuter-Return Program?

In order to humanely decrease the stray cat populations, Grand Prairie Animal Services and volunteers coordinate a free community cat fix program called Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR).



The TNR program involves (1) trapping all or most of the cats in a colony, (2) getting them sterilized and (3) releasing them. Cats returned to the community are tipped on the left ear to identify them as sterilized.

### How does Trap-Neuter-Return help the community?

Once fixed, these cats will be better neighbors. They will not be as likely to engage in problem behaviors like yowling, fighting, or spraying. Best of all, they will not be reproducing and increasing the number of homeless cats.

An intact community cat that is brought into the shelter to participate in the

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## NEW FIREFIGHTER EQUIPMENT REQUIRED IN LARGE BUILDINGS



The City of Grand Prairie fire code now requires a Firefighter Air Replenishment System (FARS) to be installed in large structures such as warehouses and high-rises that meet certain specifications. FARS enable firefighters to refill their air bottles in two minutes or less without having to carry in more bottles or go back outside to refill. This allows them to cover more ground in large structures and have more personnel to search while increasing the safety of firefighters. Grand Prairie is one of a few Texas cities to add FARS to their fire code.

## DONUTS WITH SANTA



Saturday, Dec. 11, 9-10 a.m.  
Charley Taylor Recreation Center  
601 E. Grand Prairie Road  
Age: 3-12 years old

Fee: \$5 per person. Take a picture with Santa and participate in the arts and craft activity. Donuts and juice or milk included.

For more information contact Charley Taylor Recreation at 972-339-3770.

## FLOOD INSURANCE AND COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM - How They Work Together

According to the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System, Grand Prairie is one of the best rated cities in Texas for reducing flood losses and providing flood insurance savings for residents. The City of Grand Prairie achieves the high rating by voluntarily participating in floodplain management activities such as:

- Higher standards for development in flood prone areas.
- Ongoing drainage system improvements throughout the city that are designed to reduce structural flooding and stormwater pollutants.
- Protection of wetlands
- Public outreach

In addition to the CRS program, the City of Grand Prairie participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The rate that the city receives in the CRS program qualifies our resident to receive a discount on flood insurance rates. The better the city's rating in CRS the higher percentage discount our resident can receive on flood insurance rates. **Residents that live in a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)/Floodplain are required to buy flood insurance if they have a mortgage from a federally regulated lender. However, 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).** It is important to know that any homeowner or renter can purchase 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 the flood protection rider. Those who 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.

More information on the City of Grand Prairie's flood management activities are available at [www.gptx.org/floodplain](http://www.gptx.org/floodplain) and more information about obtaining flood insurance can be found by contacting your insurance agent or visit: [fema.gov/nfip](http://fema.gov/nfip)



Keep sales tax in Grand Prairie by continuing to shop in Grand Prairie and have your online orders shipped to your Grand Prairie address. For more information visit [gptx.org/shopandship](http://gptx.org/shopandship)

## STRAY CAT TNR PROGRAM

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TNR Program is, at times, an indicator of a larger unaltered population. This acts as a flag for Animal Services staff to provide additional follow-up and support in the areas of our community that need it most.

TNR is supported by numerous cities and counties as the only proven way to effectively control feral cat population growth.

### What can I do to help?

Be a community cat advocate! Residents are encouraged to bring Grand Prairie community cats to the Prairie Paws Animal Adoption Center, 2222 W. Warrior Tr., for free spay/neuter. For owned cats, low cost programs, such as Spay Neuter Network and Texas Coalition for Animal Protection provide transportation services from the Prairie Paws Adoption Center.

### Volunteer with Grand Prairie Cat Crew

Grand Prairie Cat Crew is the non-profit organization that partners with our shelter to promote positive relationships between citizens and the community cat population. GPCC is completely volunteer run and is always in need of dedicated volunteers to help in this work. Go to their website at <https://www.gpcatcrew.org> to find out more!