

AIRHOGS STADIUM REPURPOSED FOR CRICKET

The City of Grand Prairie approved a long-term lease agreement with Major League Cricket (MLC) and American Cricket Enterprises (ACE) for redevelopment of AirHogs Stadium, 1600 Lone Star Parkway. Redevelopment of the stadium is scheduled to take place throughout 2021. The inaugural Major League Cricket season, featuring world-class T20 cricket, will begin in 2022 with six franchises from major U.S. cities. The Grand Prairie stadium will host the Texas franchise of Major League Cricket, and serve as a base for the USA Cricket National team and its premier high performance center.



“We are very excited about this opportunity to bring cricket to Texas by converting our minor league baseball stadium,” said Grand Prairie Mayor Ron Jensen. “Cricket is the second most popular sport in the world behind soccer, with a large and growing audience in the states. We look forward to an exciting future with our partners.”

WATER BILL PAYMENT PORTAL UPGRADE

In February, the Utility Customer Service online payment portal will look a little different as we upgrade the system.

If you already have a profile, it will not be necessary to re-create one. You will be able to login using your current password to access the new system. However, if you currently have paperless billing or autopay, you will need to re-establish these options.

Grand Prairie Utility Services is pleased to offer a wider selection of payment methods as well as a more user-friendly platform.

For any questions or assistance, please contact our Customer Care Representatives at 972-237-8200.

GPPD LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAM TO HELP THOSE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL ILLNESS

The Grand Prairie Police Department launched an initiative to help those suffering from mental illness, especially when in crisis, and it is designed to keep them and our officers safe. The program, Community Outreach Partnership and Education (COPE), is a first-of-its-kind and addresses this issue with real-time information sharing, increased officer training, and especially mental health

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COVID-19 TESTING SITES

For COVID-19 testing sites in and around Grand Prairie, as well as COVID-19 information, visit gptx.org/covid-19.

DEPUTY MAYOR PRO TEM SWAFFORD PASSES FROM COVID-19

City of Grand Prairie Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jim Swafford died from COVID-19 Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020, while hospital-



ized at Methodist Mansfield Medical Center. He was 84 years old. He and his wife Judy contracted the virus in early October. Mr. Swafford had been hospitalized and ventilated shortly after contracting the disease. Mrs. Swafford was hospitalized briefly and passed at home from complications of the virus in late October.

“This is a devastating loss for the city, both as a government and as a community,” said Mayor Ron Jensen. “Jim was a force of nature, with a sharp analytical mind, a memory for details, objective decision-making skills, combined with a servant’s heart to help others. The City Council counted on his input, wisdom and blessing of the very intricate and complex nature of city government finances. This virus has taken two close friends from us. Jim and Judy will be greatly missed.”

Swafford was elected to represent City Council District 2 in 1998 and repeatedly thereafter through 2020.

A special election to fill Councilman Swafford’s seat will be held in March 2021.

BAG THE BAG! GRAB THE BIN!

DON'T BAG RECYCLABLES! HERE'S WHY.

Blue recycling bags have been popular for years but hinder the recycling process by causing tangles and wrapping around equipment at the recycling sorting facility. Plastic bags can damage the machines and cause the sorting process to shut down.

Take these steps to be a better recycler.



1

DON'T BAG YOUR RECYCLING!

Effective January 1, 2021, we will no longer collect recycling in blue bags (or other plastic bags). Recycling should be placed loose in your green recycling bin.



2

GRAB A BIN!

One 18-gallon green bin per household is supplied by the City. Additional bins can be purchased for \$5 each at the City's landfill.

1102 MacArthur Blvd. Mon-Sat 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



3

REUSE YOUR BLUE BAGS!

Blue recycling bags can be used to line your indoor trash bins or as doggy doo bags. Please place in regular trash bags before putting on the curb.



4

RECYCLE BETTER!

The following items can go in your green recycle bin:

- Plastic bottles and containers, leave the lids on
- Glass bottles and jars, any color or shape
- Paper, newspaper, magazines, phone books, junk mail
- Cardboard-please flatten
- Aluminum, steel, and tin cans
- Cartons (juice, milk)
- Make sure all containers are clean, empty, and dry!

QUESTIONS?

EMAIL: RECYCLING@GPTX.ORG

CALL: 972-237-8061



Have you signed up for Alert GP yet? Visit gptx.org/disaster and click on the red button to sign up and receive notifications about potential hazards affecting Grand Prairie.

SIGN UP FOR ATHLETICS

Spring 2021 Youth Soccer

Mountain Creek Soccer Complex

972-237-8390, email: abyrd@gptx.org

Season begins March 27

\$75 per child includes jersey, shorts, socks and end of season award

Spring 2021 Adult Softball League

Mike Lewis Park

972-237-7533, email: rpgarcia@gptx.org

Ages 18 and older

\$300 per team.

COPE

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patient follow-ups.

"It is not uncommon for our officers to encounter people suffering from mental illness, but usually these encounters occur when the resident is already in mental crisis," said Daniel Scesney, Chief of Police. "This program not only enables our officers to have critical diagnosis details in advance in most cases, but also enables our team to proactively check on residents and connect them with needed resources to remain healthy."

This is a no-cost **voluntary** program. COPE participants have their names, addresses, and license plates flagged in a computer-aided dispatch system with their diagnosis data, including circumstances that trigger challenges, to ensure easy and immediate access to all first responders. The system conforms to all Criminal Justice Information Services and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act requirements for privacy. Apply for COPE online at <https://www.grandprairiepolice.org/services/cope-program>



CODE COMPLIANCE

The City of Grand Prairie Code Compliance Division is responsible for handling Chapter 29 Code of Ordinances city violations.

To File a Code Complaint:

- Call 972-237-8296
- Submit online at gptx.org/codecompliance.

DOES YOUR PROPERTY MEET CODE STANDARDS?

Junk, Litter and Debris

It is unlawful for any owner, agent or occupant to permit brush, rubbish, unsightly, unsanitary matter to accumulate on property.



Residential Fencing

Dilapidated fences are a code compliance violation. All material shall be securely fastened in an upright position, not leaning, to ensure an attractive appearance and safe condition, free from rust, rot, vandalism and other decay. Fences in residential zones cannot be higher than 3 feet in the required front yard and 8 feet in the required rear yard.



Inoperable Motor Vehicles

Inoperable motor vehicles must not be seen in public view on private property. An inoperable vehicle is a vehicle that is not equipped with all parts, has flat tires, expired registration, invalid inspection certificate or one that is on jacks. Tarps, bamboo shades and other similar types of materials are non-compliant screening. Standard car covers are acceptable.



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DOES YOUR PROPERTY MEET CODE STANDARDS?

Parking in Residential Areas

It is illegal to park any vehicle on the grass in the front, side or rear yard, or to park an oversized vehicle in a residential neighborhood. Vehicles are not allowed to stand, park or be stored in a public street unattended for a continuous period in excess of 48 hours. It is illegal to block the city sidewalk with your vehicle. Sidewalks are considered public right-of-way, and city ordinance prohibits vehicles from stopping, standing or parking on a sidewalk.



Yard Maintenance

High grass, weeds, shrubs, brush and vegetation must be maintained at 10 inches or less including alley/easement. Overhanging tree limb clearance should be 14 feet above the ground surface to allow for fire trucks, ambulances, school buses, garbage trucks, postal service and other public service vehicles to pass through safely.



Outside/Open Storage

The keeping of any materials outside or on the exterior of any building or house in excess of 10 days is not permitted. Outside/open storage, as defined in this article as the keeping of any materials outside of or on the exterior of any building or house is not permitted unless specifically allowed within the zoning district and only if all provisions of the zoning ordinance are met.



DOES YOUR PROPERTY MEET CODE STANDARDS?

The city services listed below may be helpful for getting your property up to code standards:

Animal Services

972-237-8575

Garage Sale Permits

www.gptx.org

Large Item Garbage Pick-Up

817-261-8812

Brush Program

972-237-8525

Graffiti Hotline

972-237-8599

Planning & Zoning

972-237-8255

Building Inspection for Permits

972-237-8230

Housing Community Development & Neighborhood Revitalization

972-237-8166

Tool Lending Program

972-237-4546

Clean Up Assistance

972-237-8166

Code Compliance Division

972-237-8296

Email: codecomplaints@gptx.org

Online complaints:

gptx.org/codecompliance

Landfill

972-237-4550

Landfill 50% Vouchers

972-237-8166

