



Quarterly Newsletter

Keeping you informed

Small City with Big Appeal

Volume 5, Issue 4

4th Qtr, 2009

From the Desk of City Manager

Brett E. McGuire.....

One of the most common items in any newspaper during the past several months has been regarding the upcoming budget-years of all of our major municipalities. Unfortunately, our city was not immune from the economic woes of the rest of the country and we suffered some of the ill-effects as everyone else has. As many of you know, we were facing a decline in our projected revenue sources for the upcoming Fiscal Year (beginning Oct. 1). Sales tax, property tax, permits/fees and other sources of funding for the City is projected to be down by approximately three-quarters of a million dollars. This put us into a deficit for the upcoming budget year. Staff and Council worked very hard to achieve a balanced budget, with the least impact to all of our citizens and employees as possible. There were some adjustments that had to be made. The Operations budget was cut by 8%, City employees will receive no pay raise for the upcoming year, City employees will be required to take three (3) unpaid furlough days and a couple of positions will not be filled. There also had to be an increase to the tax rate. This was not a pleasant circumstance, nor was it undertaken lightly by Staff and Council. Folks worked hard to get us all through this very difficult economic time for our country and our City. We truly appreciate the support and understanding of our citizens and employees during this difficult process.

The Holiday season is fast approaching us once again. Seems like we were all just complaining about the heat and the dry weather and then Fall came upon us. I think that we all look forward to the cooler temperatures and some sort of precipitation. Halloween is just around the corner and then the preparations for Thanksgiving and Christmas will begin. Many of our area merchants are already gearing up for the season and we can see the stores begin to have more of the "seasonal" look to them. Please remember to support our local merchants and the Northwest Chamber of Commerce. They are working very hard to keep this a viable, vibrant economic area so that we all can see the benefit. The City will be planning some of our usual seasonal activities as we have done for years in the past. The Police Department will be holding their annual Senior Thanksgiving Dinner, a Tree-lighting will be planned and all of the City departments will be out in support of our community and our citizens. We encourage each and every one of you to participate and take advantage of what we can offer. I truly hope that each of you have a safe and eventful Holiday Season.

Our circumstances may not be ideal but together we can make the best of the season. Please don't hesitate to call upon your City staff if we can be of service in any way.



It's coming soon....

The City of Lake Worth has partnered with the US Census Bureau to encourage citizen participation in the upcoming 2010 Census. The US Constitution mandates a headcount every 10 years of everyone residing in the United States. Results will affect political representation, the allocation of government funding and decisions on a various number of programs. The US Census Bureau promotes the Census as being IMPORTANT, EASY, and SAFE. There will be only 10 questions and all information is to be confidential. Remember: 10 in 10 (10 questions in 2010). Census workers can be identified by having a badge, handheld device, Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Watch for your questionnaire to be mailed out in March 2010. More information can be obtained by visiting their website at 2010census.gov.

City Calendar

City Offices will be CLOSED:

Thanksgiving Holiday

November 26, 2009 and

November 27, 2009



Furlough/Christmas Holiday

December 23, 2009,

December 24, 2009, and

December 25, 2009



New Years Holiday

January 1, 2010



No Garbage Pick Up on:

Thursday, November 26, 2009

Friday, December 25, 2009 and

Friday, January 1, 2010

On the days there is no service, please set out your trash on your next scheduled pick-up day.

- Council meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.
- Planning & Zoning meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.
- Board of Adjustments meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM - as needed.
- Historical Preservation Commission meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

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**Are you looking for a few good books?
Try these websites for book lovers!**



BookPage.com - <http://www.bookpage.com/>

New book reviews for readers of all types, whether you're interested in literary fiction or romance, history or science fiction, cookbooks or children's books.

Fantastic Fiction - <http://www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/>

Over 20,000 bestselling author bibliographies with covers and descriptions.

Overbooked - <http://www.overbooked.org/>

A resource providing timely information about fiction (all genres) and readable nonfiction. Includes themed book lists, starred reviews, and hot lists.

Reader's Robot - <http://www.tnrplib.bc.ca/rr.html>

Matches your reading tastes with books in its database's and suggests new books for you to try. Reader reviews arranged in genres, searchable by keyword.

What Should I Read Next? - <http://www.whatshouldireadnext.com/search>

Enter a book you like and this site will search its database of real readers' favorite books (over 65,000 and growing) to suggest what you could read next.



Mary Lou Reddick Public Library <http://lakeworth.bibliionix.com>



*Please have your bulk trash out before the first day of pick-up to ensure you do not get missed. **DO NOT** set your bulky trash out before the 20th of each month, or **YOU WILL BE CITED.***

Call IESI at 817-222-2221 with any questions.



Reminders from the Code Dude....

Please remember that the following items are prohibited from being deposited on, or scattered over premises:

- * Lumber, building materials, junk, trash, debris
- * Storage of furniture (except furniture made for outside use), household goods and appliances, cans or containers
- * Items of salvage such as scrap metal, rags, papers, bottles, cans and similar items
- * Inoperable, dismantled, wrecked or junk vehicles, motorized or otherwise



Bulk Trash Pick-Up Schedule

November 23-25

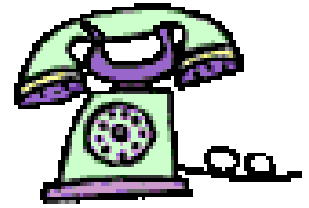
December 28-30

January 25-27



EDC SAYS.....

**COME TASTE ALL THAT IS
NEW IN LAKE WORTH**



Lake Worth continues to grow! While things may be slow around other parts of the Country, Lake Worth still has things going on! Check out the corner of Merritt and Jacksboro Highway and look at the new Chicken Express that opened in October 2009. Also check out the corner of Azle Ave. and Boat Club Road, in the Lake Worth Marketplace Shopping Center, there's a new strip center there that has just been completed. They have several new businesses looking to locate there! El Ranchero opened at 6038 Lake Worth Blvd where the old Taco Loco was. Also check out the new Rice Express located at 6036 Lake Worth Blvd as well. Taco Cabana has taken over the old Steak N Shake location, they are located at 6552 Lake Worth Blvd.

Come out and support your local retailers by eating & shopping in Lake Worth. If you are anyone you know is thinking about opening a business in Lake Worth please contact Jami Woodall with the Economic Development Department at (817)-237-1211 ext. 225.

Numbers to Remember

City Hall	817-237-1211
Public Works	817-237-7210
Library	817-237-9681
Senior Center	817-237-3281
Police	817-237-1224
Animal Control	817-237-1224,x258
Code Compliance	817-237-1211,x236
Fire	817-237-7461
Chamber	817-237-0060
Tarrant Co. Tax	817-238-4436
(Property Tax & Car Registration)	
DPS (Drivers License)	817-238-9197
County Clerk	817-238-4420
Health Dept	817-238-4441
LW Post Office	817-237-5128



Visit us on our website
www.lakeworthtx.org

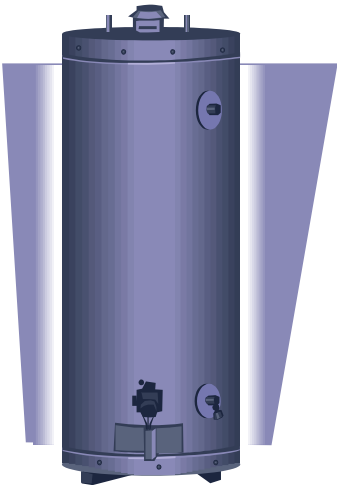


UTILITY BILLING REMINDER:

This is a reminder for residential accounts billed for sewer: your sewer charge is based on water consumption used during the three winter months of December, January, and February. This means that the water you use from mid-November through mid-February will determine your new sewer charge. The new sewer charge will show up on the April 2010 utility bill.

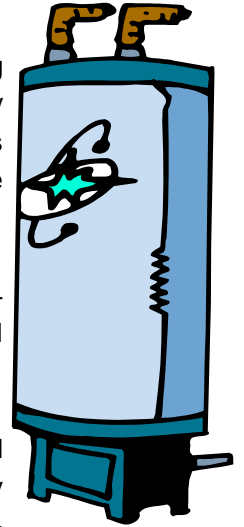
If you have any faucets that leak or toilets that run, this is the best time to fix them. If you discover a leak, bring proper documentation that you have taken care of the problem and it will be taken into consideration when calculating your sewer charge. Please submit documentation to the Utility Billing Department by the first of March, or as soon thereafter as possible. Specific questions relating to your sewer charge may be directed to Erika Hernandez at (817) 237-1211, extension #227.

PROPERTY OWNER WATER HEATER SAFETY NOTICE



Water heater safety is imperative to the occupants of a building or structure. If improperly installed, water heaters can be detrimental to the structure and potentially fatal to its occupants. The proper installation of a water heater is so important that according to Texas State Law all water heater installations must be inspected by a state licensed plumbing inspector. The following are some of the reasons why it is so important to have a licensed plumbing inspector inspect your water heater installation.

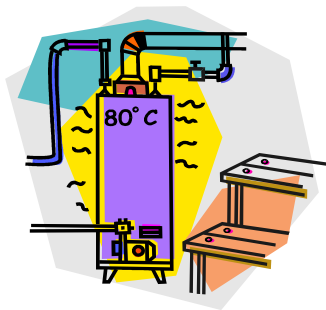
Improperly installed gas piping: If improperly installed, the gas piping connected to your water heater may be incorrectly sized to properly supply the gas demand to your water heater which can create energy inefficiencies and may lead to a gas burner malfunction or incomplete combustion of the fuel gas which may cause a fire or a carbon monoxide leak.



Improperly installed electrical wiring: If your water heater is powered by electricity the electrical circuit may not be correctly sized to accommodate the new amperage draw which can lead to electrical inefficiencies and may cause a fire.

Improperly installed venting system: If improperly installed, the water heater venting system will fail to function properly. The result of that failure can be deadly. If the venting system is installed incorrectly it could disconnect and leak carbon monoxide into your home. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, extremely poisonous gas, CO, formed by incomplete combustion of carbon or carbonaceous material; also referred to as the silent killer.

Improperly installed safety devices: If the temperature and pressure relief valve (T&P-valve) and similar safety devices (e.g. expansion tank) are not properly installed, the result can be deadly. The T&P-valve is designed to prevent a water heater tank from exploding if temperatures and/or pressures exceed their safe operating limits. There are many documented cases where water heaters have malfunctioned with catastrophic results leading not only to property damage but to loss of life as well. Exploding water heaters have been described as bombs exploding.



Water heater installed in a closet or confined space: If your water heater is installed in a closet or confined space it is required to have the appropriately sized upper and lower combustion air openings. If a gas appliance such as a water heater is not provided with the appropriate amount of combustion air it will malfunction. Typically what will happen is the gas burner will be starved for oxygen and the burner flame will go from a short blue flame to a large yellow flame causing the flame to escape the combustion chamber possibly (most likely) causing a fire.

Building Owners Responsibilities: This notice is only intended to make you aware of some of the many dangers that can result from an improperly installed water heater. **Another important reason you must have your water heater inspected by a licensed plumbing inspector is that “it is the law”.** Help us to help you keep the occupants of your home or business safe from improperly installed water heater accidents by scheduling the required plumbing inspections. Inspection requests are best scheduled by the building owner (in coordination with the plumbing contractor) at your convenience. The normal inspection times are between 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. Other times may be available and can be scheduled with the Building Inspection Department by calling **817-237-1211 ext 230**. Note: failure to obtain the required plumbing inspections may have a negative effect on processing insurance claims and/or resale of the property. The City of Lake Worth would appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. To learn more about water heater installation safety and other building code safety requirements visit our web-site at www.lakeworthtx.org