

May 2023

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FAIRCHEWS



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Fairview Town Hall will be closed on Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day.

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- Evening Non-Emergency Police: 972-547-5350
- Jeff Bell, Fire Chief: 972-886-4238
- Travis Green, Fire Marshal: 972-886-4232
- After Hours Water Emergencies: 972-886-4229
- Utility Billing: 972-886-4242
- Code Enforcement: 972-562-0522
- Smoke Detector Help Email: smokedetector@fairviewtexas.org
- Smoke Detector Help VM: 972-886-4239

Submit editorial feedback to

TownNews@fairviewtexas.org

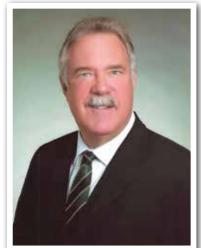
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MESSAGE MAYOR



HENRY LESSNER



Town of Fairview 372 Town Place Fairview, TX 75069 972-562-0522

Hello Gairview!

Spring is here and the Town is looking good! Thanks to all who participated in the recent Town Clean Up Day!

Spirit of Fairview

Congratulations to Katherine Ponder who received the Spirit of Fairview award at the recent Allen-Fairview Chamber of Commerce annual gala. Katherine has been active with several Town Boards and currently leads our Parks and Rec Board. Katherine also is the initiator behind the recent Town Clean Up Day. Thank you, Katherine, for your service to Fairview!

HOA Officers

This is the time of the year when many HOAs elect new officers. After you do this, please let our Town Communications Manager Karin Anderson know their names and contact information. Send an email with the new information to kanderson@fairviewtexas.org. The Town will occasionally send targeted information to neighborhoods through their HOA officers. When you have your HOA meeting, I am willing to visit and see if anyone has any questions about Town activities.

EDC Podcast

Our EDC does podcast interviews with folks in our Town. There are currently 10 different interviews of Fairview residents at this site. You can find these at www.fairviewtexasedc.com/ podcasts. Take a listen and learn more about interesting folks who live in our Town.

AT&T Fiber

Major progress has been made. AT&T is currently working all over Town installing fiber service. Their contractors do the fiber cable installation, but when you see AT&T labeled vehicles in your neighborhood, you know that fiber service is available. Service recently became available in all neighborhoods along Greenville. AT&T is working with Heritage Ranch to bring fiber into that neighborhood, and I am told that they have even taken fiber to Summit Court! You can ask AT&T to notify you when fiber service will be available to your house by going to: www.AT&T/NotifyMe. We met with AT&T in early April to get a status on those neighborhoods where AT&T fiber is not yet installed.

McKinney Airport

Early voting started on April 24. Be sure to tell your friends in McKinney to vote NO on Prop A. Only McKinney residents get to vote on this – even though Fairview/Lucas/Allen will take the brunt of the noise it generates. This is the \$200M bond package that will fund the addition of a passenger terminal at the McKinney Airport. Aside from the fact that having larger/noisier passenger planes flying over our Town is awful ... I cannot figure out why this is good for McKinney. There is a much better option IF another regional passenger airport is needed in North Texas. It is the North Texas Regional Airport in Grayson County, just west of Sherman.

A PAC has been set up to take donations that will be used for yard signs and mailers to McKinney residents. Please visit the website VOTENOPROPA.org and make a donation. Thanks to Dick Hevey and Kim Meeks for strategizing and working to get the word out. Don't hesitate to write to the Dallas Mornings News or McKinney Gazette newspapers. Let your state (Candy Noble, Jeff Leach and Angela Paxton) and national (Keith Self) representatives know that you are concerned about this.

Be clear – the leadership in McKinney does not care what we think. Focus your effort on the voters in McKinney. If you work in McKinney or go to church in McKinney or your children attend McKinney schools, talk this up. McKinney residents have voted down airport bond issues at least twice in the past. They need to do that again.

Fairview Crossing

The relocation of Frisco Road has begun. It will be aligned with Country Club. We have a name for

MESSAGE MAYOR

continued from previous page

the new street - Fairview Crossing. Council member Rich Connelly gets credit for the new name! It will take about 12 months for this construction project to be complete.

Neighborhood Speed Limits

Please remember to watch your speed as you drive around Town. At every HOA meeting that I visit, there is a concern stated about folks driving too fast in our neighborhoods. Almost all the folks who are driving too fast are people who live in those neighborhoods. Please respect your neighbors and drive 25 mph or slower. Drive slowly and enjoy the view in our beautiful neighborhoods!

May 6 Election

Depending where you live in Fairview, you will get to vote on School Board positions in the McKinney and Lovejoy ISDs and the Collin College Trustees.

Remember those who are not as blessed as we are who live in Fairview. ACO needs food donations and especially cash. If you can, send them a check at 801 East Main, Allen, Texas 75002.

Join me for Breakfast with the Mayor at Fairview Farmers at 8 a.m. May 22. I will miss May 8, as I will be traveling. I hope to see you around Town.

Henry Lessner

Henry Lessner Mayor@FairviewTexas.org

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\$478K

\$610K

\$558K

\$645K

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\$513K

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RECENT MLS CONTRACTS:

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679 SCENIC RANCH CIR - CLOSED APRIL

1311 BETHPAGE CT - PENDING

918 MEDINAH DR - PENDING

900 MEDINAH DR - UNDER CONTRACT



372 Town Place

Fairview, TX 75069

972-562-0522



Utility Billing Contact Information

It's time to update your information with the Town of Fairview Utility Department. The Utility Department may need to reach out to you regarding a water leak, road closure, bad weather or an unforeseen event. Having your most current information on file ensures you can be contacted in the event of an emergency. To update your phone number or email address, please send your current information to utilitybilling@fairviewtexas.org. Please see Pages 14-15 for the 2023 Collection Schedule.







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MESSAGES

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At the Tuesday, March 7, 2023, Regular Town Council meeting, the Town Council:

Heard a presentation from Lake Highlands High School environmental science advanced placement students regarding a land study the students conducted in Fairview

Cassandra Wilson, Au.D., CCC-A

Doctor of Audiology



- Approved the following items on the consent agenda:
 - a. Minutes of the February 7, 2023, Regular Council meeting
 - b. An ordinance canceling the May 6, 2023, General Election
 - c. An Amended Plat of Lots 31A, Block A of Oakwood Estates, Phase 1 and Lot 5A, Block A of Oakwood Estates Phase 2. The 2.1-acre site is located at 840 Quail Rise and 760 Elk Ridge Drive and is zoned for the (RE-1) One-acre Ranch Estate District
 - d. A resolution authorizing continued participation with the Oncor Cities Steering Committee and payment of assessed dues for 2023
 - e. A resolution authorizing continued participation with the Atmos Cities Steering Committee and payment of assessed dues for 2023
- Received reports from Staff, including updates on project

tracking reports and department activities:

- a. Monthly Financial Report Period ending January 31, 2023
- b. Monthly Police Report Period Ending February 28, 2023
- c. Annual Fairview Police Racial Profiling Report
- d. Monthly Fire Report Period Ending February 28, 2023
- e. Town construction projects
- Took the following actions:
 - a. Approved a resolution with amendments to a proposed McKinney Airport expansion
 - b. Approved an amended ordinance related to water wells
 - c. Approved an ordinance naming Fairview Crossing, to be constructed between US 75 and State Highway 5
 - d. Approved of the release of one parcel of excess right of way in conjunction with the construction of Frisco Road
 - e. Approved an amendment to the FY22-23 budget related to Fairview Fire equipment
 - f. Discussed action on Town regulations regarding shortterm rentals and related matters
 - g. Set a date for a Council staff retreat
 - h. Appointed former Mayor Darion Culbertson to the Board of Directors of the Economic and Community **Development Corporations**



LOVEJOY ISD OFFERS

Lovejoy ISD offers a variety of summer activities including summer enrichment and athletic camps for children entering pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Enrichment and athletic camps are offered in weekly sessions with morning and afternoon options available.

Lovejoy ISD Summer Activities provide many benefits for children including opportunities for:



Academic Growth: Reinforcing skills learned during the school year.



Socialization: Developing important social skills such as teamwork and communication, as they interact with their peers in an engaging environment.



Exploration: Trying new activities and exploring areas of interest which can help them discover new passions and talents.



Access to Resources: Interacting with resources and learning opportunities that may not be available to them during the regular school year.



Skill Development: Reinforcing previously learned skills as well as developing new skills necessary to excel in each activity or sport.

Healthy Habits: Promoting a healthy lifestyle and the importance of physical activity.

Online registration is now open at https://lovejoy.revtrak.net/













View the complete

LOVEJOY ISD SUMMER ACTIVITIES NEWSLETTER







A Message from Marjorie Vaneskahian Burr, ACO CEO



I Change Lives

"I Change Lives" is a bold statement to make and to wear on your shirt for all to see. All of the ACO Staff wear these words. We also live by those words in our jobs every day. <u>Our mission is to change lives</u>.

But how does ACO change lives?

We address immediate needs

We are changing lives!

- It may be providing desperately needed food from our food pantry to keep a family fed.
- It may be addressing the final utility disconnection notice to keep a Mother and her 3 kids with electricity during the freezing temperatures in winter.
- It may be providing access to ACO Cares center where a family can get basic household goods, clothing, and essentials at no cost in order to have money to pay other bills.

We look for a path forward

- It may be help with resume or interview skills for a young father to gain employment
- It may be GED classes or training for someone needing to further their education
- It may be financial literacy and budgeting classes for a family

We are changing lives!

OK, now the real truth...

We are not really changing lives on our own. It's all YOU! You are the ones who really change lives with your support.



ACOCARES.ORG

Your donations, volunteer hours and financial gifts to ACO make it possible for our staff to carry out our mission every day.

> Thank you for helping us <u>Change Lives</u> here in Collin County.



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Pictured in the photo, from left to right, are: current chamber of commerce board chair Demetris Adekanmbi, Fairview Mayor Henry Lessner, Katherine Ponder and chamber board chair-elect David Ellis.

Parks Board Chair Honored for Fairview Spirit

In March, Fairview resident Katherine Ponder was honored by the Allen/ Fairview Chamber of Commerce with the Spirit of Fairview Award.

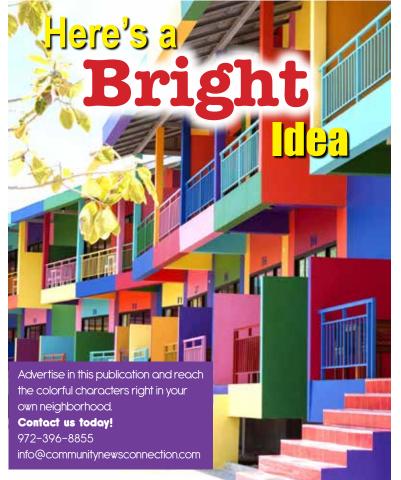
Katherine has been an active member of the Fairview community since her family moved here in 1999. She is the current chair of the Fairview Parks and Recreation Board and has previously served as a member of the Fairview Technology Committee.

As a member of the Parks and Recreation Board, Katherine helped complete the comprehensive long-term Parks and Trails plan for the town, and, along with other board members and the Collin County Master Gardeners Association, developed and implemented plans for a walkable wildflower meadow in Coyote Park. She also initiated the Fairview-wide cleanup day that took place in April and was recently elected as president of her neighborhood HOA board.

Congratulations, Katherine, and thank you for your dedication to Fairview.

Holiday Closures

Fairview Town Hall will be closed Monday, May 29, 2023, in observance of Memorial Day. Please see Pages 14-15 to view the holiday schedule for solid waste collection.





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- Light electrical and plumbing
 Refinish Front Entry Doors

HERITAGE RANCH RESIDENTS



lt's Fountain Season at Fairview Town Center!



The Fountain, on the north side of the Town Center, is a custom installation with intricate motors, filters and systems to keep the water clean.

"FTC gets more questions about The Fountain than on any other program or amenity except Santa, especially when we have to close The Fountain for repairs," said Wendy Ellis, Marketing Director for LPC Retail.

The top reasons why The Fountain is sometimes off are damage, water quality issues and behavioral/safety issues. Specially trained Fountain Monitors will be onsite from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. May 26 through Aug. 13 to enforce The Fountain's rules, such as no running or pushing. After Fairview Town Center hired Fountain Monitors in summer 2022, The Fountain only missed one day of operation, which was due to a power outage.

Your family can help ensure The Fountain stays on for the entire season by adhering to The Fountain Rules and following instructions from Fountain Monitors. Help us make The Fountain experience wonderful for everyone by keeping toys, food and other foreign objects out of The Fountain. Parents should also ensure all young children are wearing swim diapers. (Diaper changes must take place inside restrooms.)

Fairview Town Center will display The Fountain Shows at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. nightly from May 26 to Aug. 13. Visitors must be out of The Fountain during shows.

Did You Know? A button on the FTC website tells you if The Fountain is on. It's always a good idea to check FairviewTownCenter. com/fountain before you visit. And remember to review The Fountain Rules (and share them with your children).

Enjoy another great spring and summer at The Fountain at Fairview Town Center! And visit the Fairview Town Center website for a full schedule of free family activities and concerts.

HEARD HAPPENINGS

Heard Museum's Night Out Fundraising Event

Night Out at the Heard will be a fun outdoor fundraising event for guests 21 and older to benefit Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary. This event will offer live music, dancing, a cash bar, and food trucks from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. June 10 at the Heard.

Tickets are available while supplies last. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit HeardMuseum.org/Night-Out. The event is sponsored by NBC5.

Heard Natural Science Museum &



Wildlife Sanctuary is a private 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing nature and people together to discover,

enjoy, experience, restore and preserve our priceless environment. The Heard was founded in 1967 by Bessie Heard at the age of 80. In a time when the rate of expansion of the Metroplex was slower than today, she foresaw the need to preserve a place where future generations could experience nature. Today, the Heard's mission of bringing nature and people together is carried out through education, particularly of young people, which emphasizes an appreciation of nature and its conservation.

ACTOR OF FAIRVIEW: Chayse

Chayse is 14 years old and is currently in 8th grade. She loves participating in productions at North Texas Performing Arts (NTPA)-Fairview Youth Theatre and did her first show with NTPA when she was in the second grade. When not at the theatre she also takes voice lessons, acting classes, and enjoys spending time with my family and friends. She is currently in preparation for the production Avenue Q, which will be her 19th show with NTPA.



In Avenue Q, Chayse plays Bad Idea Bear. "It's fun to play him

because he is a part of Princeton's (main character) conscience as one of the angels/devils in his head. Avenue Q is different because it takes acting to a whole new level. Instead of just acting with your face and body, you add a puppet to the mix and are able to tell a story in an entertaining way. Avenue Q takes the dramatics from a kids show like Sesame Street and uses the same techniques to teach lessons to adults in a humorous way. My favorite role to play so far is Percy Jackson in *The Lightning Thief*. The Lightning Thief has been one of my favorite musicals and being able to play Percy was a dream come true. The cast and crew were incredibly talented and a pleasure working with all around".

Come see Chayse and the rest of the cast of *Avenue Q* performing at NTPA-Fairview Youth Theatre May 12-20, 2023. For more details on the show or to get tickets please go here: https://ntpa.org/event/avenue-q-fairview/

Fairview Fire Rescue Seeking Your Input

Fairview Fire Rescue is developing a strategic plan to help clearly define the department's mission and goals and provide direction for the next seven to 10 years. After completing the stra-

tegic plan, Fairview Fire Rescue will be eligible to apply for Best Practices Accreditation through the Texas Fire Chiefs Association. This accreditation helps departments achieve organizational excellence, which ultimately enhances firefighter safety and long-term planning. It also improves standard operating guidelines, risk management



and other administrative functions. Fairview Fire Rescue is eager to pursue this accreditation and confirm that the department is among the very best in the state.

A key part developing the strategic plan is input from people who live or work in Fairview. Please take a few minutes to complete a brief survey using the QR code or visiting https://bit.ly/40U4Rpb.



Thank you in advance for your help. An email with a link to the survey will also be

sent to Fairview residents. If you receive the email, please forward it to others who may not have received it. A high response rate helps staff better determine priorities.



U.S. Rep. Keith Self visited with Mayor Henry Lessner, Mayor Pro Tem Ricardo Doi and Town Manager Julie Couch to discuss topics of interest at the federal level that may impact Fairview, and local issues including the proposed McKinney airport expansion and concerns about proposed state legislative changes affecting local control.





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This month at the Allen Public Library...

The Pedestriennes: America's Forgotten Superstars

In the late 1860s, an emerging sport briefly rose to prominence – professional endurance walking. While men dominated the sport, a small group of women generated their own

excitement and garnered national attention. Learn about this obscure chapter in sports history, women's history and American history at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 4.



Harry Hall, the au-

thor of *The Pedestriennes: America's For*gotten Superstars, will describe how social preconceptions about women's capabilities were challenged in those days. This attitude assisted the suffragist movement, laying the groundwork for women's participation in athletics and the revival of the Olympics. This book has been the recipient of three prestigious writing awards: the Mayborn, Independent Publisher and Writer's Digest.

With an impressive marathon record of 2:27 himself, Hall offers unique insights about the pedestriennes. He observes, "My experiences as a distance runner helped me understand the impact intense training has on the body and mind. The routines, struggles, I'd personally experienced many of those stresses the pedestriennes did." Harry has served as a contributor to *The Dallas Morning News* Health and Fitness Section.

Prize for the Fire

Known for its technological, political, social, religious and political upheaval, the Tudor period was a significant era in English history. Rilla Askew's *Prize for the Fire* is the tragic and passionate story of an actual woman who lived during the reign of Henry VIII. Askew will discuss her newly released novel at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11.

The book shares the tale of Anne Askew, a woman determined to free herself from her

abusive husband, harsh in-laws and the cruel strictures of her married life. But this is the England of Henry VIII, where religion and politics are dangerously entangled. A young

woman of Anne's fierce independence. Reformist faith, uncanny command of plainspoken scripture and connections to Oueen Katheryn Parr's court cannot long escape official notice or censure. When asked



what her source of inspiration was for writing this book, Rilla observes, "I learned about Anne Askew when I was quite young and was always fascinated with her because we share the same last name. We're not related, as far as I know, but that fascination led me to uncover more of her story and eventually to write about her." Anne was an independent

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woman, fearless, a writer, a woman of strong faith and keen mind who defied the Tudor patriarchy as she sought to live and believe as she desired.

Rilla Askew is a novelist, essayist, and short-story writer known for her award-winning historical fiction. *Fire in Beulah*, her novel about the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, received the American Book Award. Her Dust Bowl novel, *Harpsong*, received the Oklahoma Book Award. Rilla is Associate Professor of English at the University of Oklahoma.

The Great Chief - Quanah Parker

As a significant element of the Texas mystique, the story of Cynthia Ann Parker and her son Quanah Parker constitute a sensational chapter in Texas history. The Comanche leader Quanah Parker was the only late nineteenth century Native American chief never defeated on the battlefield and became known as The Great Chief.

Quanah Parker's great-great-grandson

Lance Tahmahkera will speak 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18.

As a child, Cynthia Ann was kidnapped by Comanche raiders and raised as a Comanche. She later married Peta Nocona,



the chief who gained fame for his raids on white settlements. They had three children: Quanah, Pecos and Topsannah. Quanah was the only one who survived to adulthood.

Living from approximately 1845 to 1911, Quanah Parker is remembered for his leadership and bridging the gap between the U.S. government and Native Americans. Lance observes, "When he did surrender in 1875, his greatness as a leader was showing. He helped transition us from the nomadic hunter-warrior lifestyle to the everyday life that we have now."



Memorial Day Concert

Listen to a Memorial Day concert with the New Horizons Band at 3 p.m. Friday, May 26.

Observe the solemn presentation of the colors by VFW Post 2195. The Flower Cottage has provided a stunning floral wreath. Allen Quilters Guild have offered "Welcoming Quilts." A missing man table will be on display.

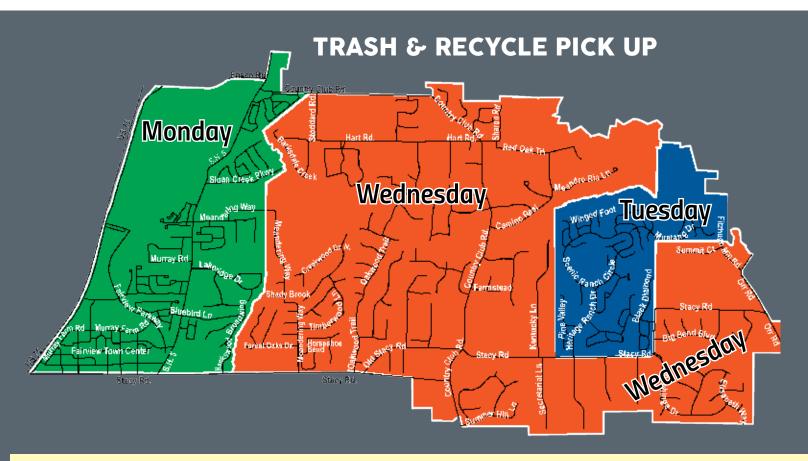
This concert is sponsored by the Allen Parks and Recreation Department and the Allen Public Library. Many thanks to Jodie Klepetka with Quality Healthcare Choices for their generous assistance.

"Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with last breath of each soldier who died protecting it." Unknown author

These free events at the Allen Public Library, 300 N. Allen Drive, will also be streamed live on ACTV at https://ACTV.org. Click the green "Watch" button top right on channel page. For information about any of these events, call 214-509-4911.



Trash, Bulk and Brush Collection



There will be no solid waste collection on **Memorial Day, Monday, May 29**. Pickup days will shift for the entire week.

Residents who normally have trash and recycling collected on Mondays will instead receive pickup on Tuesday, May 30. Addresses that normally receive Tuesday pickups will receive collection on Wednesday, May 31, and Wednesday pickup addresses will be collected on Thursday, June 1. Bulk and brush collection isn't impacted by the holiday.

As always, trash and recycling carts should be placed at edge of the street/alley no earlier than 5 p.m. prior to collection day and no later than 7 a.m. on collection day. Only household waste, grass clippings, leaves and similar yard waste placed in an approved container will be collected.

Key things to remember:

- 1. Carts should be placed with handles facing the house and lids opening toward the street or alley.
- 2. Carts must be placed 2 to 3 feet apart and away from fences, cars, gates, gas meters or other objects that will obstruct the pickup arm.
- 3. Trash should be inside securely tied plastic bags,

and all bags should fit into the cart with the lid closed.

- 4. Do not place hazardous waste in the cart.
- 5. Nothing should be placed outside the cart except for acceptable bulk or brush placed for pickup on your scheduled bulk and brush pickup week.
- 6. Carts must be rolled back away from the street after pickup no later than 6 a.m. the following day.
- 7. Bulk and brush should be cut into 4-foot lengths and neatly stacked. Up to 12 cubic yards of brush or bulk are allowed per address in a month. A single cubic yard is 3 feet long, 3 feet wide and 3 feet tall.

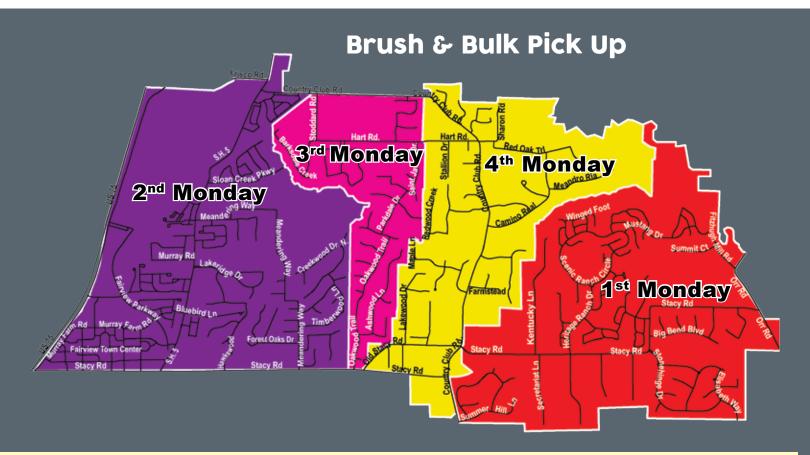
To report a damaged cart or request collection for a missed pickup, contact Republic Services at



972-422-2341 or RepublicServices. com/Customer-Support.

To view **zoomable maps**, solid waste collection guidelines and the full 2023 collection calendar, scan the QR code with your phone.

Trash, Bulk and Brush Collection



Upcoming Collection Calendars

| | MAY 2023 | | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| | S | Μ | Т | W | Т | F | S | | |
| 1st Mon. | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | |
| 2nd Mon. | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | |
| 3rd Mon. | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | |
| 4th Mon. | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | | |
| | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | |

| | JUNE 2023 | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | 2 | 3 | | |
| 1st Mon. | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | |
| 2nd Mon. | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | |
| 3rd Mon. | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | |
| 4th Mon. | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

1st Mon. 2nd Mon. 3rd Mon. 4th Mon.

| | | JULY 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|----|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|
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| | | | | | | | 1 | | | | |
| Mon. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 7 | 8 | | | | |
| d Mon. | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | | | | |
| l Mon. | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | | | | |
| Mon. | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | |
| | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | |

2nc 3rd 4th

| | SEPTEMBER 2023 | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| S | Μ | Т | W | Т | F | S | | | | | |
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| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | |

| | S | Μ | Т | W | Т | F | S |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1st Mon. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 2nd Mon. | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Brd Mon. | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 4th Mon. | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
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| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1st Mon. | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 2nd Mon. | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 3rd Mon. | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 4th Mon. | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

MOSQUITO PREPAREDNESS

Mosquitoes get "hangry" too, and we're their favorite feast.

After a mild winter and wet spring, mosquito populations thrive, which increases our chances of coming in contact with these pesky creatures and the viruses they're known to spread, including West Nile, Zika and Chikungunya.

The first line of defense against mosquitoes is making your surroundings less attractive to them. Survey your property and get rid of any water that has been standing for more than three days, including birdbaths, pet dishes and empty pots and planters. Don't forget to check rain gutters for clogs. Mosquitoes only need a few inches of standing water to breed. Also, keep mosquitoes out of your home by repairing or installing window and door screens, and consider including natural deterrents, like marigolds or lavender, in your landscape.

The second line of defense is to stay indoors around sunrise and sunset, when mosquitoes are most active and hungry.

Finally, wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts when you are outdoors, especially if you can't avoid going outside when mosquitoes are most active. And apply an insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol or 2-undecanone on your outer clothing and exposed skin. These products are safe when used according to their directions.

