

# Fun Facts

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**The City of Cedar Hill provides premier municipal services through the teamwork of 308 full-time employees, 79 part-time employees and countless volunteers. Thank you!**



# Fun Facts

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**Cedar Hill has the highest concentration of radio and television communication antennas in the country with 14 towers reaching several thousand feet into the air.**



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Since 1990 the population of Cedar Hill has increased over 100% to 46,311 in 2010.



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Cedar Hill was once home to one of the largest mail order worm businesses in the U.S. At its peak, Oakhaven Farms sold up to 300,000 worms weekly and hired “worm counters” to help fill orders.



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**Cedar Hill is one of the oldest organized communities in Dallas County and was at one time designated as the temporary county seat.**



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**Cedar Hill practices a council-manager form of government comprised of an elected mayor, six at-large council positions and a city manager appointed by the council.**



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**At 880 feet above sea level, Cedar Hill has the highest elevation between the Red River and the Gulf of Mexico.**



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**Cedar Hill's Dogwood Canyon is home to three species of Hexalectris orchids. These rare orchids bloom through the summer and are among only a few hundred in the county.**



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**On April 29, 1856 Cedar Hill was nearly blown away by a tornado that claimed at least nine lives and is said to have destroyed all but two buildings within the town.**



# Fun Facts

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**With almost two million visitors a year, the 1,826-acre Cedar Hill State Park is the second most visited recreation destination in Texas.**



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**In October 1996, a 1,550 ft. broadcast tower collapsed on itself, killing three workers and knocking out television and radio signals for hours.**

**Hundreds of people gathered in downtown for Country Day on the Hill witnessed the tower fall.**



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In January 1986 floodgates were closed so Joe Pool Lake would begin to fill. With the added onset of heavy rains, the lake filled in only five days stranding several pieces of heavy equipment still buried beneath the water today.



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The largest fossil creature ever found in Dallas County, a 50-foot long swimming sea lizard named *Elasmosaurus morgani*, was discovered in the 1930's by Cedar Hill resident T. J. Tidwell.



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Cedar Hill's first movie house, the Cedar, opened in the T. A. Bray building in the 200 block of S. Houston Street in 1945. The 200-seat theater featured a brightly lighted, triangular marquee decorated with neon light of green and red. The Cedar closed its doors in the 1950's.



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The railroad first arrived in Cedar Hill around 1882. The Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Line ran between Dallas and Cleburne, boasting six passenger trains daily by the turn of the century. Passenger service ended after World War II.



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In January 1987 while returning from a training flight, a Marine F-4S Phantom jet hit one of the transmission towers severing a support cable, causing the tower to lean about 5-feet toward Belt Line Road. The two pilots ejected safely.



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On a Sunday evening in August 2000, Dr. Jannay Valdez of DeSoto sighted a UFO near the television tower on FM 1382 in Cedar Hill, speeding through the sky toward Granbury. Police Chief Steve Rhodes said there had been no other UFO sightings reported that night or in his five years as Chief. Ignoring skepticism, Dr. Valdez reported the incident to the International UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, New Mexico.



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On October 8, 1932, the First State Bank of Cedar Hill, now Cedar Hill Barbers, was robbed by Raymond Hamilton, a sidekick of notorious bank robbers Bonnie and Clyde. When Hamilton got wind of reports that some of the cash had been hidden during the first robbery, he returned to rob the bank again.

