

# May 2016



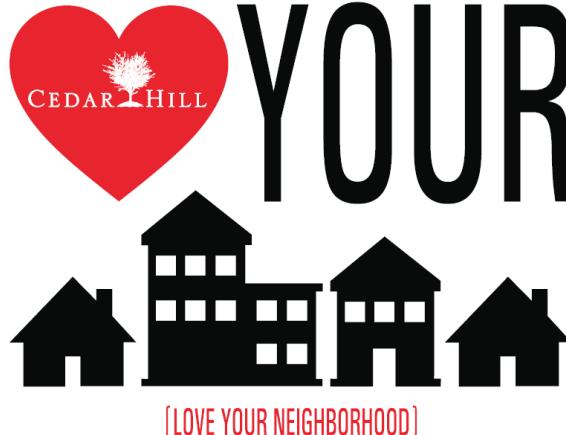
# HIGHLIGHTS

## Great neighborhoods make great communities

**Nominate your neighborhood for the City's Annual Love Your Neighborhood Awards**

Once again, we are in the season of celebrating Cedar Hill's best neighborhoods — those communities within our city where people come together to conquer challenges and create lasting relationships that help mold more-sustainable neighborhoods. Mayor Franke has spoken many times about how neighborhood organizations help build strong relationships among neighbors and the City.

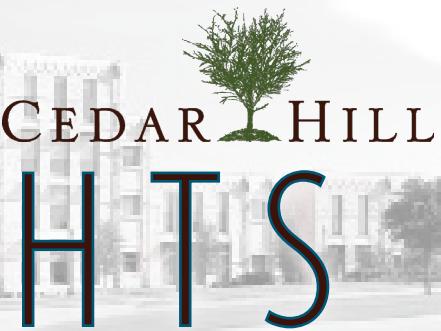
Neighborhood Engagement is a top



priority for your Mayor and City Council. It is important that each neighborhood in our community exhibit the values established by City Council.

Your Neighborhood Award application will be evaluated by its ability to demonstrate City Council's Values within the neighborhood.

Applying is simple and can be done at the city's website, [cedarhilltx.com/premierneighborhood](http://cedarhilltx.com/premierneighborhood). On that page are details about the awards and the com-



## Survey Says!

In the recent city-wide survey, police, fire and EMS services in Cedar Hill rated about 10% better than national or regional averages with a 90% satisfaction rate.

This reflects the City Council's long-term focus on keeping Cedar Hill residents safe.

munity values set by the City Council.

From now until the June 3 nomination deadline, the City of Cedar Hill is asking local residents to nominate neighborhood-based organizations that are doing great work in our communities.

Contact Michelle in Neighborhood Services for additional details at 972-291-5100 x 1099 or [michelle.ebanks@cedarhilltx.com](mailto:michelle.ebanks@cedarhilltx.com).

## Summer Camp options improve your Cedar Hill groove

Cedar Hill's natural beauty is a great place for summer camps and we have several to share. Learning opportunities don't end when school's out. See which of these local opportunities are right for your family.

### Camp Cedar Hill at Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center at Cedar Hill

Your youngster gets lunch, field trips, a T-shirt, programming and adventure starting at \$120 a week. Weekly programs start June 6 and run through July 29.

Topics include: Birds, Bats & Butterflies, Dogwood Canyon Olympics, Mad Science, Amazing Animals, Far Out Space,

and more. Early drop off and late pick up is optional. Save with early registration on-site at 1206 W. FM 1382. Weekly rates start at \$120 with discounts for monthly and 8-week rates.

### CHAT Sumer Camp at Cedar Hill Recreation Center

Enrich young lives with engaging reading, sports, art and field trips. Weekly sessions begin June 6 and end August 19. Ages 5-13. Early and late pickup available. Weekly rates begin at \$90/week for residents with discounts for siblings. Register on-site at the Alan E. Sims Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville.

### Sumer Fun Youth Camps at Cedar Valley College Center at Cedar Hill

All programs have divisions for ages 8-12 and 13-17.

Sessions include: APP Attack, Code Breakers, Inspiring Young Entrepreneurs, Young Entrepreneurs Dishing out Business and more.

Weekly tuition runs between \$50 and \$125 per week. Classes are morning or afternoon.

To register call 972.860.0816 or visit [cedarvalleycollege.edu](http://cedarvalleycollege.edu). Registration hours are M-F 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 207 N. Canady Dr. in Cedar Hill.

**HOME**  
YOUR PORTAL

**SIGN IN / REGISTER**  
RETURNING & NEW CUSTOMERS

**PAY YOUR BILL**  
INSTANT & AUTOMATED

**YOUR ACCOUNT**  
PROFILE & HISTORY

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
REQUEST REPAIRS OR GET HELP

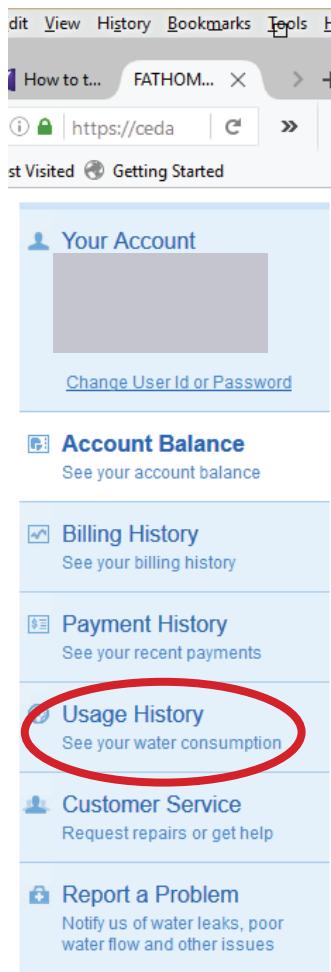
# Cutting your water bill is easy as 1, 2, 3, 4

Enjoy a summer filled with all the great activities Cedar Hill has to offer, but please remember that water conservation is a critical issue for our state. Don't forget to take extra care to watch your water use and save during the summer months.

To help empower your control over water use, Cedar Hill is completing a major water management and customer billing upgrade. With the FATHOM™ U2You™ Customer Portal, you can now save time and fuel by paying your bills, managing your account information and initiating service requests all online, from the comfort of your home. Now, you can use tools to see your water consumption and expenses. It's easy to get started!

## Step 1. Sign in and find your Usage History

First go to <https://cedarhill.gwfathom.com/> and click on Sign In / Register near the top of the screen. If you are a new user you'll need your customer Account Number from your water bill and the phone number you used to set up your account.



The screenshot shows the City of Cedar Hill Customer Portal homepage. The main content area features a large teal banner with the text 'Cutting your water bill is easy as 1, 2, 3, 4'. Below the banner are four main navigation links: 'HOME YOUR PORTAL', 'SIGN IN / REGISTER RETURNING & NEW CUSTOMERS' (which is circled in red), 'PAY YOUR BILL INSTANT & AUTOMATED', and 'YOUR ACCOUNT PROFILE & HISTORY'. The 'SIGN IN / REGISTER' link is highlighted in blue. The sidebar on the left contains links for 'Your Account', 'Account Balance', 'Billing History', 'Payment History', 'Usage History' (which is circled in red), 'Customer Service', and 'Report a Problem'. The 'Usage History' link is underlined and blue, indicating it is the active section.

## Step 2. Set your Monthly Water Threshold

Once you sign in, click on the "Usage History" tab on the left side of the next page. Other tools are there to help you be smarter with water like: a water conservation score, daily consumption data, and neighborhood usage comparisons.



## Step 3. Get e-mail or text alerts on your usage

Clicking on "Settings" at the top of the Usage window gives access to a cool, new tool that lets you set a "Monthly Threshold" limit for your house. You can set up to receive e-mail or text alerts when your water consumption exceeds your Monthly Threshold. Once you set your "Monthly Threshold" limit you can request automatic messages to be sent either by e-mail or text when the gallon limit you set is exceeded or if the system detects a leak. Now, you are empowered to control your consumption in real time to better manage water use, control your spending and conserve water.

## Step 4. Sit back and relax – you're in control

Now, residents of Cedar Hill can sit back and relax this summer knowing they are in total control of their water consumption and costs through FATHOM U2You customer portal tools. So, sign in today and start saving tomorrow.



## Severe weather is here

**It's not a matter of "if" it's "when" a storm will affect us. You can take steps to be ready when severe weather strikes Cedar Hill.**

### Before

Continually monitor the media. Be aware of approaching storms. Keep your cell phone charged.

Know what type of severe weather is common for your area and have a place to seek shelter (basement, interior room, bathroom, closet, etc).

Make sure you have a supply of water and non-perishable food in case power is out for several hours. Have alternate light sources. Know how to manually open your garage door.

### During

Keep an eye on the sky. Look for darkening skies, flashes of light or increasing wind. Listen for the sound of thunder. Tune into local TV/radio stations for updates.

Remember that sirens are only to alert those who may be outside when hazardous weather approaches.

Gather family members, bring pets indoors and have your emergency supply kit ready. Including a battery operated radio or well charged mobile devices. Use mobile phones sparingly to avoid overloading area towers.

### After

Stay off roads to allow emergency crews to clear roads and provide emergency assistance.

Avoid downed power lines. Assume they are live.

Listen to media reports and/or local authorities for updates and areas to avoid. Check on neighbors and friends.

See more at <https://tx-cedarhill.civicrm.org/>



## May

### 26 Town Hall Meeting, Zone 3

**6 p.m., Crawford Park, 401 Straus Rd.**

This year Town Hall meetings are even more fun. This is the last of three meetings set up by your City Council so they can meet with residents in a more informal environment. Zone 3 includes neighborhoods south of FM 1382 and west of Hwy. 67. This year's meetings will be held outdoors with hot dogs and opportunities to visit with elected officials and City staff members. Activities will be available to keep children safely occupied. For more information please visit [cedarhilltx.com/1685/Neighborhood-Town-Hall-Meetings](http://cedarhilltx.com/1685/Neighborhood-Town-Hall-Meetings).

### 27 Cinema on the Square

**8 p.m., Cedar St. @ Houston St. Downtown**

Kicking off this season of outdoor classic musical films is Fiddler on the Roof. The film will begin at 8:15. Bring lawn chairs, blankets and snacks. Free popcorn provided.

### 28 ReMarket

**9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Houston St. @ Texas St. Downtown**

The City of Cedar Hill and the Cedar Hill Arts Council present Downtown ReMarket, held every 4th Saturday of the month, April - May, in Historic Downtown. This community market features fresh produce, local art and crafts, a flea market, eco-friendly goods, and more! More vendors welcome, complete the form at [chartstx.org/remarket.html](http://chartstx.org/remarket.html).

### 28 Insane Inflatable 5K

**8:30 to 11 a.m. , Valley Ridge Park, 2850 Park Ridge Drive**

Register at [insaneinflatable5k.com](http://insaneinflatable5k.com) for the world's largest and most extreme inflatable obstacles ever created. This is not a timed event. For all ages, but must be 42" tall.

### 30 Crawford Park Pool opens for the season

**401 Straus Road**

Open 7 days a week from May 28 to August 12

Lap Swim Mon-Thur 9:00am - 1:00pm (\$1.00/person)

Fri-Sun 12:00pm - 1:00pm (\$1.00/person)

Senior Swim 12:00pm - 1:00pm (\$1.00/person)

Open Swim 1:00pm - 5:45pm (\$2.00/person)

More information at [cedarhilltx.com/pool](http://cedarhilltx.com/pool)

## June

### 2 Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

**7:30 - 8:30 a.m. , Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville Rd.**

Open to everyone to raise up the community for protection and progress.

### 3, 10, 17, 24 June Concerts in the Park Series (every Friday in June)

**8:00 p.m. , Valley Ridge Park, 2580 Park Ridge Drive**

Live music in Cedar Hill's beautiful amphitheater every Friday in June. Sample the offerings of food vendors or bring your own. Lawn chairs, blankets recommended. Bring the family, invite your neighbors for an evening of outdoor fun and music.

### 4 Kid Fish Tournament

**8:00 a.m. , Valley Ridge Park Pond**

For ages 4-16. Bring your fishing poles, rods and reels, and come experience the joy of fishing. Bait and tackle will be provided along with a limited number of rods and reels. Supplies will be provided on a first come first serve basis, so plan to arrive early.

[cedarhilltx.com/calendar](http://cedarhilltx.com/calendar)

## Nature is my neighbor

# Living near green can make you healthier

**This is the first of a series of articles about the benefits of Cedar Hill's natural beauty.**

— Corky Brown

A new study by a team at the Harvard School of Public Health concludes that living in or near green spaces can be a boon for longevity. And, even better, it shows that seeing more greenery may boost mental health. Aren't you feeling good about your choice to live in Cedar Hill?

"Higher exposure to greenness has been consistently linked to lower levels of depression, anxiety, and stress," the team wrote. And they reported that other studies have demonstrated that views of nature may have a direct psychological benefit.

According to the study, women living in the greenest areas (tree canopy measured by satellite) were 34% less likely to die from respiratory illness than women living in more paved-over areas.

Scientists say these associations were strongest for respiratory and cancer mortality. Which is not really surprising. For years reports have been coming in showing that trees and greenery can help absorb harmful air pollution and disturbing noise. Having parks or gardens nearby can encourage exercise.

My advice is to enjoy your yard, your trees and flowers, plant some if you don't have any. Enjoy your neighbor-

hood parks, your miles and miles of hike/bike trails, the larger community parks, the tree-lined medians and trees that are protected by ordinance in our city.

Visit the free trails and learning centers at Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center and don't forget the hard-core nature at Cedar Hill State Park and Lake Joe Pool on the edge of our City.

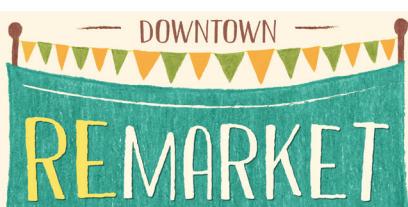


Start enjoying the benefits of trees and the joy of planting a living thing. Take advantage of the City's Neighborhoods program which allows homeowners to request trees if they have none in the front yard.

Submit the form at the link below to request your tree(s). The City will deliver them to you. Sorry, you have to plant them. There is more information at [cedarhilltx.com/757/NeighborWoods-Trees](http://cedarhilltx.com/757/NeighborWoods-Trees).

## Sign up now for severe weather alerts at CivicReady

We encourage residents to sign up all family phones to receive alerts when dangerous weather approaches. Our warning system will send your choice of an email, text message or phone call or all three. Take a few minutes now and register at <https://tx-cedarhill.civicready.com>



**Every 4th Saturday, March-May from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Houston St. @ Texas St.

Eco-friendly goods, flea market, local art, fresh produce & crafts. Visit [chartstx.org/remarket](http://chartstx.org/remarket).

## The Dallas Morning News

has recognized Cedar Hill as one of the **top 20 neighborhoods in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex.**



Our natural beauty, terrain, location, festivals, concerts and values set us apart. See more at [cedarhilltx.com/2145/DFW-Best-Neighborhoods-per-DMN](http://cedarhilltx.com/2145/DFW-Best-Neighborhoods-per-DMN)

## City Contacts

### EMERGENCY 911

Administration 972.291.5100 x1009

After Hours (Answering service)  
972.780.6643

Animal Control 972.223.6111

Animal Shelter 972.291.5335

Building Inspections 972.291.5100 x1090

City Secretary 972.291.5100 x1011

Code Enforcement 972.291.5100 x1111

Communications 469.272.2903

Economic Development 972.291.5132

Fire Department, non-emergency  
972.291.1011

Human Resources 972.291.5100 x1050

Library 972.291.7323

Municipal Court 972.291.5100 x1041

Neighborhood Services  
972.291.5100 x1099

Parks & Recreation 972.291.5100 x1500

Parks Adult Rain-outs 214.855.9758

Parks Youth Rain-outs 972.480.5868

Police Department, non-emergency  
972.291.5100 x2400

Public Works 972.291.5126

Recreation Center 972.293.5288

Senior Center 972.291.5353

Tourism 972.291.5100 x1084

Trash & Recycling (Waste Management)  
800.772.8653

Utility Billing 469.272.2931



## HIGHLIGHTS

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