

SEPTEMBER 2013



HIGHLIGHTS

Fight the bite, help stop WNV

At the end of August, Dallas County health officials were optimistic that this year's West Nile Virus season will be substantially better than last year.

In 2012 Dallas County led Texas with 371 cases of West Nile Virus. As of mid-August, there have been only 4 cases this year.

Authorities credit several factors. More effective communication about WNV by Dallas County and city officials has increased awareness of how to avoid being bitten and mosquito abatement programs have been more aggressive, with spraying starting with the first positive tests from mosquito collection traps.

Most WNV infections occur between June and September, so officials warn residents to continue taking measures to control mosquito populations and avoid getting bitten using the 4D defense plan.



Drain

Remove breeding sites on your property. Drain standing water, cover trash containers so they won't hold water, change birdbaths, pet dishes and wading pools at least weekly, check boat tarps and grill covers for trapped water.

Dress

Wear long-sleeve, loose and lightly-colored clothing when outside.

DEET

Use repellents with DEET or other FDA approved repellents and follow instructions.

Dusk to dawn

Be aware that mosquitoes are most active from just before sunset until just after sunrise.



Don't forget the DEET

National Night Out Oct. 1

It brings out the best in our neighborhoods. Be sure your neighborhood event is on the list to be visited by officials from the City, School District and Police Department.

Call 972.291.5181 x2051 or 972.291.5100 x1094

Stay informed

- Register your phones at cedarhilltx.com/connect
- Check the City website daily cedarhilltx.com
- Follow the City on Facebook City of Cedar Hill, Texas - Government
- Report standing water, send email to pw@cedarhilltx.com

Register for WNV updates

Scan this code with your smartphone using any QR code reader app. It will take you to a page to register your family's phones to receive phone calls from the City if spraying for mosquitoes is scheduled for your street.



Nextdoor

Safer, local social media

Nextdoor is the private social network for your and your neighborhood. It helps neighbors keep in touch.

Each member of your neighborhood's website must verify their address to join so you can trust who you are sharing with. And you control how much information you share.

Many Cedar Hill neighborhoods are already using Nextdoor's secure online tool to get the word out about meetings, watch groups, finding trustworthy service providers and more. Some neighborhoods are approaching 90% participation.

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76th Country Day on the Hill Oct. 12

CedarHillCountryDay.com

Nextdoor.com

from page 1

Sgt. Victor Vasquez with the Cedar Hill Police Department said PACT neighborhood officers are providing crime prevention tips to neighborhoods via Nextdoor.

Check it out at *Nextdoor.com*. Your neighbors may already be there.

Government Technology, a journal for state and local government solutions recently reviewed *Nextdoor.com*. Nextdoor is a private social network designed to let neighbors connect and restore a sense of community to neighborhoods. Nextdoor provides an online place for community interaction about useful information.

This isn't another social network for photo sharing or posting updates about vacation plans. Instead it aims to be an online hub for spreading the word about a break-in, organizing a garage sale or getting recommendations about local businesses.

Nextdoor limits the number of potential users in each network to a neighborhood's boundaries, so that a user can connect with his or her neighbors — and only with his or her neighbors.

This social media site verifies that the people connecting through it really are neighbors. The address of each user is confirmed to build confidence among users that they are creating connections within their community.

And local governments can get in on the action. Government representatives, like city managers and police officers, can use Nextdoor to connect with users and post information for them.

However, they can't see the rest of the conversation, including profile pages or the member directory. "They can simply broadcast into the neighborhood," Leary said. Then it's up to the users if they wish to contact the government representative for more information or to comment on the post.

New Director
Tammy Miller

Cares about our furry friends

Tammy Miller has joined the Tri-City Animal Shelter as Director. She is responsible for further connecting the shelter with the Cedar Hill, Desoto, and Duncanville communities. She replaces Alissa Prelis, who had been with the shelter since 2005 and is leaving due to her family's relocation.

"This is such a unique and rewarding opportunity to work with three different cities," said Miller. "Having the collaboration of these three cities makes it less stressful when someone is looking for a lost pet."

Tammy plans to increase off site adoptions and work with larger retailers to help achieve the animal shelter's goals. She hopes to expand the program of volunteers who foster sick animals and nurse them to good health so they can be adopted.

Active in animal welfare for more than two decades, Tammy first volunteered and then worked at the Humane

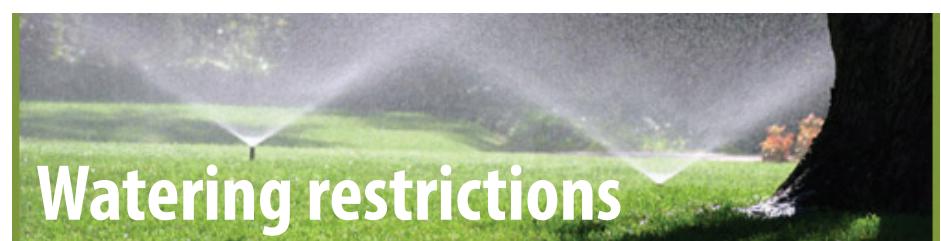


Society of North Texas (HSNT). While working with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) Tammy assisted in response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita. She managed the largest animal care facility in Arkansas called Project Barkansas, a temporary animal care program during a large scale investigation.

Miller has matched sheltered animals with celebrities Jamie Lee Curtis, George Robert Phillips McFarland (Spanky from the Little Rascals), Chris Cagle and a few others. Her passion for animal welfare has helped many others find that special companion.

The Tri-City Animal Shelter is located at 1150 E. Pleasant Run. It is open Monday - Friday from 10 am to 6 pm and on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. The shelter number is 972.291.5335. Cedar Hill Animal Control can be reached at 972.223.6111.

Join the Cedar Hill Community Band
Call Donald Stockard at 214.542.8529 or
email cedarhillcommunityband@yahoo.com



Watering restrictions

No watering from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week May 1 to Sept. 30

From May 1 to September 30, outdoor watering between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. is prohibited by ordinance. Fines for violators start at \$200 for the first offense.

Conservation during hot summer months is critical to avoid entering Drought Response Stages.

Any additional watering restrictions

required under the City's Drought Response Stages will be posted on the home page of the City website cedarhilltx.com if and when they are put into effect.

There is a lot more information about Drought Response Stages and water conservation on the City website at www.cedarhilltx.com/water.

People make it a community



"The Project" was one of the bands that entertained big crowds at Uptown Village's Summer Jam to Give concert s. The seven-week series helped raise funds for charities in the Best Southwest area.



City Secretary Lyn Hill, with flowers, was honored at a recent City Council meeting where she was presented the 2013 Clerk of the Year Award by officers of the Yellow Rose Chapter of Texas Municipal Clerks Assn.



A crowd of about 300 excited Apple fans waited in line, some as early as 3:30 a.m., at the recent ribbon cutting/grand opening of Simply Mac in the Uptown Village Center.

Saturday litter collection

Meet at the Government Center every Saturday at 9 a.m. to help keep Cedar Hill clean by collecting litter in all parts of the city. This program is supported by Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful and coordinated by Don Hughes. To confirm, if weather is iffy, please call him at 972.765.4285.

C A L E N D A R

For the most up-to-the-minute information on events, check out the City's online calendar by scanning this QR code with your smartphone. Free QR scanners are available in your phone's app store.



SEPTEMBER

21 Kids on the Hill Creative Arts Festival

4-8 p.m. at Valley Ridge Park Amphitheater at 2850 Park Ridge Drive. For details visit cedarhilltx.com/kidsonthehill.

24 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., First Floor, Cannady Room.

OCTOBER

1 National Night Out

A special evening of neighbors getting together to celebrate safer neighborhoods, with visits by police, city officials and elected officials. Last year 35 neighborhoods participated at 28 locations in the city. For ways your neighborhood can participate, call 972.291.5181 x2051.

5 Sister to Sister Festival

6:30 a.m. to noon. Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville Dallas/Cedar Hill effort to unite to walk and address the risks of breast cancer. Register for the 5K Run/Walk at celebratinglife.org or call 972.501.9981 x110.

8 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., First Floor, Cannady Room.

12 Country Day on the Hill

6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting In its 76th year, Country Day celebrates the joy and traditions of Cedar Hill with a parade, food and entertainment all day on three stages. Visit cedarhillcountryday.com for info.

26 Scare on the Square

3 p.m. Historic Downtown Cedar Hill Frightful fun begins in the yard at 110 S. Broad St with creepy tales by master storytellers, then trick-or-treat at participating downtown merchants. This event is free for children accompanied by a parent or guardian.

26 Hazardous Household Waste Event

9 - 11 a.m. High School parking lot Free disposal of dangerous chemicals, pesticides, paint, auto fluids etc. Residents only. For info visit cedarhilltx.com/HHW

26 Lake Ridge Charity Golf Tournament

7:30 Registration, 8:30 a.m. Shotgun start, Tangle Ridge Golf Course Benefits local charities, this year including Operation Finally Home. Call 972.965.7994 for registration information.



cedarhilltx.com/calendar/home

Partnerships provide custom home for wounded veteran

City Manager Alan Sims (center, blue shirt) joined the ground-breaking crew with state and other local elected officials and partners in the Operation FINALLY HOME project in Lake Ridge. City Council members Jami McCain and Steve Mason also attended.



An American hero will get a fresh start thanks to several local organizations teaming up to build him a new mortgage-free custom home. Operation FINALLY HOME (OFH), the Former NFL Players Assn., the Dallas Builders Assn., South Star Communities and Victory Custom homes broke ground recently on the home located in the Cedar Hill and Grand Prairie community of Lake Ridge.

"This represents a 21st century barn raising," said Dan Vargas, Executive Director of Operation FINALLY HOME. The organization builds homes for severely wounded veterans

who are 90-100% disabled but want to get their life back on track. They have built more than 40 homes for veterans in Texas. The name of the veteran receiving this home will be announced in September.

Former Dallas Cowboys star Bill Bates, one of the building partners, said "It's a great way to give back to the people who have given so much to us."

SouthStar Communities donated the one-acre lot in The Sanctuary at Lake Ridge.

The home should be completed by the end of the year.

Chili Cookoff heats up Historic Downtown on Country Day

Country Day on the Hill will host the City-wide Neighborhood Chili Cook Off in Historic Downtown Cedar Hill on Oct. 12.



The Chili Cook Off is open to any Cedar Hill neighborhood organization team, up to three teams per neighborhood. No entry fee is required. All teams must make at least four gallons of chili. All chili team entries will be blind judged.

Teams will be entered in all three contest categories:

- Competition Chili
- People's Choice Chili
- Showmanship Team

Registration forms are available online or at two convenient locations in town: Dick's Uptown Café, 610 Uptown Blvd. or David's Seafood Grill, 350 E. F.M. 1382. For more information contact Teril Woodward at 214.679.9120 or email dicksuptown@att.net.

Rules and regulations are available online at cedarhilltx.com/chilicookoff. Proceeds from the sale of tasting cups will be distributed to local area non-profits.



Smart crosswalk lights up for kids

The new in-roadway warning light enhanced crosswalk system included in the improvements on E. Pleasant Run will increase safety by increasing visibility of the crosswalk and alerting motorists when it is occupied. Once activated by a pedestrian wishing to cross, the lights in the roadway and the adjacent sign flash toward approaching drivers.

Drivers should be aware of this crosswalk, slowing down upon approach and recognizing the right of way of pedestrians. Those crossing should always make sure traffic is stopped before entering the crosswalk.



City Contacts

EMERGENCY 911

Administration 972.291.5100x1010

After Hours 972.780.6643

Alarm Monitoring 972.230.5248

Animal Control 972.223.6111

City Secretary 972.291.5100x1011

Code Enforcement
972.291.5100x1090

Economic Development 972.291.5132

Fire Department, non-emergency
972.291.1011

Human Resources 972.291.5100x1050

Library 972.291.7323

Municipal Court 972.291.5100x1041

Neighborhood Services
972.291.5100x1084

Parks & Recreation
972.291.5100x1500

Parks Adult Rain-outs 214.855.9758

Parks Youth Rain-outs 972.480.5868

Police Department, non-emergency
972.291.5100x2400

Public Relations 469.272.2903

Public Works 972.291.5126

Recreation Center 972.293.5288

Senior Center 972.291.5353

Tri-City Animal Shelter 972.291.5335

Utility Billing 972.291.5100x1200

Waste Management, Inc.
Trash & Recycling 800.772.8653

UPDATED



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