



Nichols Hills E-News

April 2009

PUBLIC WORKS

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Upcoming Meetings

- Planning Commission Meeting May 5th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- City Council Meeting May 12th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Board of Adjustment Meeting May 20th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Environment, Health, & Sustainability Committee May 27th
8:30 am

Bond Issues

It's been busy around the public works department. We have several projects in progress including our Stratford Drainage Project. The project started on Stratford at Britton Road and proceeded South to Westminster. This is phase one of a two phase project to move storm water off of Stratford and take it to the drainage canal in the Village. The Project is 79% complete.

You may have noticed the huge water storage tank being constructed at the public works facility. This tank along with a booster station (not yet under construction) will help us blend our finished water to improve water quality. The tank will hold 4 million gallons of water giving us 8 million gallons in storage. That amounts to 2 days supply during our high demand periods. The project is 88% complete.

Urban Contractors have started on a well line relocation project at the corner of Wilshire and Kelley. Oklahoma City will be working on the intersection in the near future. The project is 18% complete.

Animal Control

Spring is here and the parks are pretty as ever. Please help keep them that way by notifying Public Works with any problems. Remember to keep pets on a leash and use the supplied doggy bags if necessary.

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PUBLIC WORKS

Storm Water

Along with spring will come our much needed rains. The new Storm Water rule prohibits anything except rain water down our storm drains. Our city inspectors are busy trying to keep dirt and lawn clippings off our streets. Please inform your lawn crews and report any noticed violations to Public Works.

Recycling

Almost everybody has probably noticed the recycling center has been moved to Public Works. It's not the most user friendly facility in town but we don't have a lot of choices. We are going to make a few more modifications to the facility to see if we can improve the location. The ports on the recycle bins measure 17" wide, please do not bring anything larger. Please help us keep the facility clean.

April's Featured Employee



Lloyd Arinwine has worked for the City of Nichols Hills for 8 years. He was hired as our water meter reader and he still reads our meters today. It used to take Lloyd 3 weeks of walking to read the water meters. Now with the help of our newly completed automated metering system he reads the entire town in 3 hours. We are still shaking a few of the bugs out of the system but with Lloyd's help we will have those cleaned up quickly.

CITY HALL

NICHOLS HILLS NEW RECYCLE CENTER

**Nichols Hills new recycle center has been relocated to 1009 NW 75th Street,
at
the Nichols Hills Public Works Department.**

The current hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Individuals using the recycle center may enter at the West gate (sign posted)
on 75th Street. Upon entering the gate, the recycle bins are located on the
immediate right, approximately 50 feet from the entrance.**

**After depositing your recyclables, you then continue on around the drive and
exit out of the East gate (exit signs posted.)**

Remember to REDUCE, REUSE, & RECYCLE!



FIRE DEPARTMENT

I recently read an article in the Tulsa World Newspaper that quoted a City Councilman asking why the fire hydrants in Tulsa were not being flow tested annually. The issue arose when there was a problem with a faulty fire hydrant on a fire call. The fire department response to the Councilman was they try to test every hydrant once every three years but could not document that goal was accomplished. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated case. I have heard some fire departments say they do not flow test hydrants because they feel it's the Public Works responsibility and others say it's too time consuming.

Fortunately, many fire departments do flow test their fire hydrants annually and the Nichols Hills Fire Department is one of those. We have approximately 200 fire hydrants in Nichols Hills. Even in a landlocked city like Nichols Hills delivering water to residents and making it available for fires is a dynamic process that changes more often than most people would guess. As water lines are replaced some hydrants are removed while others are added. Any fire department that does not keep up with these changes and insure that all hydrants are working properly are putting their residents and themselves at risk.

The fire hydrants in Nichols Hills are divided into three districts and each hydrant is assigned a number and an address. Each of our three shifts, Red, Blue, & Green is assigned a district and tests each hydrant at least once a year. The test is done by opening the hydrant until it's fully open then holding a pitot tube in the flowing stream of water to get a PSI reading. We plug the PSI reading into a formula that gives us the gallons per minute (GPM) flowing from that hydrant. We then shut the hydrant down and insure that it drains properly once shut. This keeps the hydrant from freezing in the winter.

This test tells us several things. It tells us that the hydrant is working properly. It also tells us there are no valves closed somewhere in the line. It also tells us approximately how much water we can count on if we have a fire and use that hydrant for our water supply. Every year we find several hydrants that have one of a variety of problems. Sometimes a valve is closed so a water main break can be repaired. Occasionally reopening the valve is overlooked so the GPM available in that hydrant is greatly reduced. Sometimes a hydrant just will not open or it may open but won't close. When we find a hydrant with a

FIRE DEPARTMENT

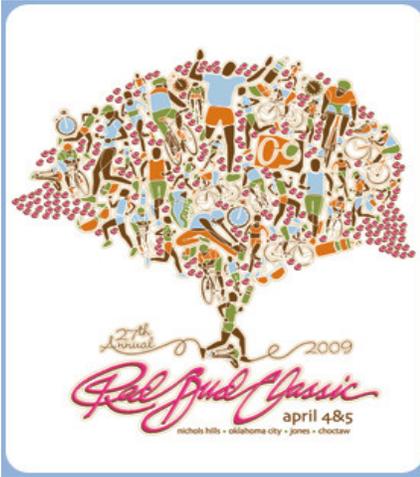
problem we report it to the Nichols Hills Public Works Department and they always have the problem fixed in a short time.

Testing every hydrant every year does not guarantee will never have a problem. However; not testing your hydrants will certainly guarantee that you will encounter a problem at some point in time. Unfortunately that problem will probably be encountered when you need that hydrant the most, on a fire.

Terry Hamilton, Assistant Fire Chief



POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Redbud Classic was a great success this year. The Redbud was held April 4th and 5th, but the Police Department begins starts serious preparations for the classic on January 1st. We organize 89 people to assist in the race, including law enforcement officers, ambassadors, community service personnel, REACT volunteers, and wrecker crews.

A great big thank you to all our residents who volunteered, participated, and supported this year's festivities. We hope you enjoy these 'behind the scenes' photos from this year's Redbud Classic.



Jason White, Heisman Trophy winner, speaking to the crowd before Saturday's race

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Jason White, with the OKC Thunder mascot Rumble the Bison, motivates the crowd before the race.



The view from the front of the children's race.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Police Officers and Volunteers gather before the start of Sunday's race for instruction.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



Turning the Fire Bay into a triage center



Friendly Redbud Volunteers!