



# Nichols Hills E-News

April 2013

## CITY NEWS

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### Upcoming Meetings

- City Council Meeting  
May 14th  
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Regular Meeting of Municipal Authority  
May 14th  
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Board of Adjustment  
May 15th  
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Environmental, Health & Sustainability Committee  
May 29th  
8:30 am at City Hall



**THURSDAY, MAY 9TH  
5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

## OPEN HOUSE AT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

- ◆ Meet your Nichols Hills Firefighters
- ◆ Spray water from a truck and see what it feel like to be a Fireman
- ◆ Have fun in the Fire Extinguisher Booth
- ◆ See a demonstration on the Ladder Truck
- ◆ Face Painting & Balloons for Children
- ◆ Enjoy food cooked by your Nichols Hills Firefighters



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## CITY NEWS

### "My Address is Nichols Hills, OK"

We recently bought some patio furniture at an Oklahoma City store, to be delivered to our Nichols Hills home. I had to convince the salesman to be CERTAIN my address was listed as "Nichols Hills, OK". The cashier said it couldn't be done. Yes it can!! Remember, anytime you buy anything which will be delivered to your home, be sure you list your address as Nichols Hills, OK. A 1995 state law says that the Point Of Delivery is the official recipient of sales tax. And we need it! The Oklahoma Tax Commission is working with vendors to make it easier for Nichols Hills residents to indicate their true address. But we have to do our part, by telling them we live in Nichols Hills, OK. Keep this in mind when you order online, when you shop for appliances or furniture to be delivered, when you rent a large tent -- anything delivered to your home.

The sales tax collected is what supports our fabulous fire and police departments, our efficient public works, and the administrative services to keep it all going.

So, tell everybody, "My address is Nichols Hills, OK".



Sody Clements, City Councilman

## CITY NEWS

# Don't be an accident!

## Walking Safety Rules

**Distracted drivers are a concern, even in Nichols Hills.  
Therefore, be a defensive pedestrian and follow these rules of the road.**

### Walk Facing the Traffic

- You have your eyes & ears to see traffic approaching & know if evasive action is needed.
- Walk single file-especially important on roads with lots of curves.

### Be Visible

- Wear bright, white, or light-colored clothing during the day so drivers can see you.
- Wear a light or carry a flashlight at night & always wear reflective clothing.

### Be Aware, Look, and Listen

- Stranger Danger---alter your course or go to a safe place if you see someone suspicious.
- Hang Up & Walk---you are distracted & not as aware of your environment while talking or texting on the phone.
- Keep the Volume Down---keep the music volume at a level where you can still hear other noises.
- Cross with Care---look both ways & make sure the driver sees you (make eye contact) before crossing the street.

### Walk Dogs on Short Leashes

- Keep your pet, yourself, & others safe by walking with your pet by your side.



## CITY NEWS

### Water Conservation Tips



**WATER CONSERVATION** is the planned and deliberate actions taken voluntarily to bring efficiency to both the supply of, and the demand upon the water resources of a community.

#### OUTDOOR TIPS

- Do not over water your lawn. Give your lawn thorough watering of about an inch once a week to encourage deep root development.
- Water your lawn only in the evening or early morning to prevent evaporation.
- Use automatic sprinklers that deliver large droplets.
- Consider irrigation devices such as drip irrigation and soaker hoses that are water efficient.
  - Check for leaks regularly.
- Use a broom, not water, to clean your driveway.
- Use water from a rain barrel to water your garden.
- Add two to four inches of organic material, such as peat or compost, to the soil. Greater soil depth will increase the ability of the soil to retain moisture.
  - Think about ecoscaping your yard...  
Ecoscaping combines healthy soil with native and drought-tolerant plants, trees and shrubs to create attractive, low maintenance, and water efficient landscapes, which leave a small environmental footprint.
- Plant native and adaptive plants; they will use less water. Group plants together based on similar water needs.

***Conserve water!***

***Help save the environment!***

#### ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Check the position of your sprinkler heads so water lands on the lawn and shrubs...NOT on our streets.
  - If you see a sprinkler watering our street...please REPORT to the City so the homeowner can be notified.
  - Install RAIN & FREEZE SENSORS to your irrigation system to prevent watering while it is raining and during freezing temperatures.
- Raise the lawn mower blade...a higher cut encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system, and holds soil moisture.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Water Safety and Drowning Prevention

Too often, firefighters hear people say, “it was just a few seconds.” Unfortunately, just a few seconds is all it takes for a child to drown. Drowning is a leading cause of death for children under the age of five.

Most of these children drown in their own backyard swimming pool, but others drown in bathtubs, toilets, dog water bowls, rivers, streams, and ponds. Small children are top heavy and they don't have the upper body strength to lift themselves out of one of these dangerous situations. Even if the child survives the incident, they are often left with permanent brain damage.

Drowning and near drowning can be prevented, and you can help! Anyone involved with the supervision of children needs to be aware of the dangers associated with any body of water. Below are some useful tips to prevent these needless tragedies.

- ◆ Know where your children are at all times
- ◆ Use an approved barrier to separate the pool from the house
- ◆ Never allow children to be alone near a pool or any water source
- ◆ Have life saving devices near the pool, such as a pole /hook, or flotation device
- ◆ Keep large objects such as tables, chairs, toys, and ladders away from pool fences
- ◆ Post the 9-1-1 number on the phone
- ◆ Do not allow children to play around the pool and store all toys outside the pool area
- ◆ If you leave the pool area, take the kids with you
- ◆ Always have a “designated watcher”
- ◆ Learn to swim
- ◆ Never swim alone, or while under the influence of alcohol or medications
- ◆ Never swim when thunder or lightning is present
- ◆ Never dive into unfamiliar or shallow bodies of water



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Bathtub Safety

Nationally, about 80 children die from bathtub drownings per year. Here are some tips for keeping your child safe in the tub:

- ◆ **Supervision.** NEVER leave a child unattended in the bathtub for ANY REASON. There is nothing important enough to risk drowning! Children can drown in just a few inches of water, and can easily topple into the tub while you're dashing out to answer the phone, get a towel, etc.
  - ◆ Don't run to answer the phone.
  - ◆ Don't check to see who's at the door.
  - ◆ Don't leave your child to be watched by an older brother or sister.
  - ◆ **MAKE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THESE RULES!**
- ◆ **Bath Seats.** Several types of bath seats and rings adhere to the bottom of the tub with suction cups and offer bathing infants and toddlers support while sitting. Don't think that you can leave your child unattended. The suction cups can come loose, and it isn't hard for a child to slide out of these seats.
- ◆ **Get supplies first.** Collect soap, towel, diaper, clothing, toys, and any other items you plan on using before you even run the bath water. Place these items where you can reach them easily.
- ◆ **Water heater.** To reduce the risk of scalding, set your home's water heater to a maximum of 120 degrees Fahrenheit. A good test: You should be able to hold your hand under the tap even when the hot water alone is running.
- ◆ **Faucet covers.** Placing a soft, insulated cover over the bath tub faucet is a prudent safeguard against accidental burns or bumps. They are available at many baby-supplies stores.
- ◆ **Slips and Falls.** Prevent bathtub slips and falls by placing a rubber mat in the tub or affixing non-slip adhesive decals or strips to the bottom of the tub.
- ◆ **Electrical hazards.** Keep electrical devices (including hair dryers, curling irons, and electric razors) well away from the tub.
- ◆ **Slippery floors.** Be sure to use (and teach your children to use) extra caution and keep a non-slip bathroom rug by the side of the tub for your child to step onto after bathing.



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Practice Water Safety While on Vacation!

Whether you are vacationing on a beach, swimming in a pool, tubing down a river or boating in a lake... Water safety must be practiced where ever water is present!

Here are some simple water safety tips to follow when planning your next family outing:

- ◆ Enforce the same safety rules you use at home. Take time to explain the importance of following these rules.
- ◆ Never allow children to swim unsupervised in a hotel/motel pool. Never assume someone else is watching your child.
- ◆ Check out the pool before you swim: Is the water clean and clear? Where is the deep end? Is there a lifeguard on duty? Where is the rescue equipment, and how is it used? Where is the phone, and can you dial out directly?
- ◆ When staying at a relative or friend's home look for possible water hazards (pools, ponds, bathtubs, etc.)
- ◆ When boating, wear a Coast Guard approved lifejacket. When planning boating events, make sure to pack a lifejacket for each person. Children are required to wear a lifejacket at all times in a boat in many states.
- ◆ Know what is in and under open water areas. Find out about hazards such as marine life, parasites, currents, drop-offs, very cold water, or submerged objects. Enter all unfamiliar water feet first.
- ◆ If water is shared by boats, **BE VISIBLE**. Have your child wear a bright colored life-jacket or swim cap, stay close to shore while swimming, and actively watch for boats.
- ◆ Know what to do if your child falls in the river: Go downstream immediately to position yourself to help.



**HAVE FUN AND PLEASE BE SAFE!**

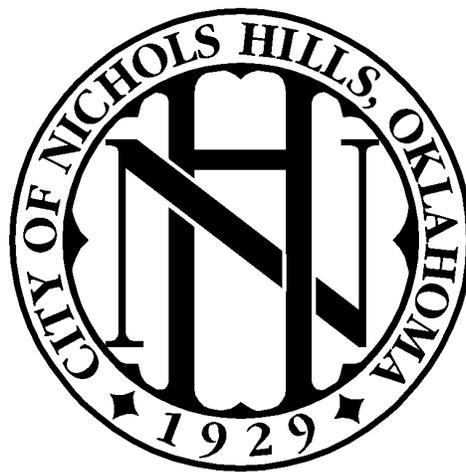
## PUBLIC WORKS

As the temperatures increase so does the projects. We still have contractor at Wilshire and Waverly. A-Tech finished most of the drainage and the project seems to be moving faster. They will not be far enough along to be out of the way of the Memorial Marathon. Arrangements have been made the race should go without a problem.

SAC is working on NW Grand and making good progress. They still have along project ahead of them. SAC should be finished west of Penn within the next 90 days.

Nichols Hills will have several projects starting within the next few months. The City is going to do a small drainage project on Devonshire and a wastewater project on Pennington. Nichols Hills will two well rehabs starting within the next ten days and will have a trail to build as soon as SAC Construction is out of the way on NW Grand.

Spring is coming and outside activities are picking up. If you see something that needs our attention or we can be assistance please let us know at 843-5222.



## ANIMAL RESCUE FRIENDS

If anyone wants to assist ARF in it's mission of saving unclaimed, impounded pets in Nichols Hills, they can donate time, old collars, leashes, crates, dog beds, food, treats, toys and, of course, money by mailing checks to Animal Rescue Friends, Inc of Nichols Hills, C/O Public Works, 1009 N.W. 75th Street, Nichols Hills, OK 73116 or by calling 843-4222 about donating items. ARF will respond by sending a 501 c 3 tax deduction letter (and offering a cat or a dog!). Any animal adopted through ARF comes with a 30 day money back guarantee.

### APRIL'S FEATURED PET



**Beauregard is an 80 pound, approximately 3 year old Redbone Coonhound who is very sweet and needs a safe, loving home.**