



Nichols Hills E-News

November 2008

PUBLIC WORKS

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Upcoming Meetings

- Planning Commission Meeting Dec. 2nd
5:30 pm at City Hall
- City Council Meeting December 9th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Municipal Authority December 9th
5:45 pm at City Hall
- Environment, Health, & Sustainability Committee December 24th
8:30 am at City Hall

6407 Avondale Drive
Nichols Hills, OK 73116

Phone: 405-843-6637
Email: enews@nicholshills.net

Code Division

The winter is almost upon us once again. Residents should have their fireplaces and furnaces inspected by qualified personnel. If you have considered a generator for your home this would be a good time to have one installed. They usually run in short supply during an ice storm. Construction sites should install and maintain their erosion control. All job sites should be kept clean at all times.

Animal Control

Please keep your animals on a leash at all times and please pick up after your animal. Animal Control receives periodic complaints on animals running at large in our parks. Please be considerate of others and keep your pets on a leash. Pet owners are reminded to purchase a Nichols Hills pet tag for their animals, in case they are lost.

Street Division

The Street Division will be sealing streets for the next couple of months, please use caution when approaching a work area. We have had several close calls with speeding vehicles in work areas. We are trying to keep up with the leaf accumulation in the storm drains, but sometimes they get ahead of us. If you see a storm drain that is clogged with leaves, please contact Public Works at 843-5222,

Sanitation

Sanitation is starting trash pick up at 7:00 a.m. this is an hour later, than usual. This change in time is due to safety issues and to stay in compliance with the city ordinance.

PUBLIC WORKS

Recycle Bins

The City of Nichols Hills now has a plastic recycle bin behind the City Hall located at 6407 Avondale Drive. We still have the glass, aluminum and paper bins also. For hazardous waste disposal please contact Midwest City at 739-1392.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Cold Weather Safety Tips from the Nichols Hills Fire Dept.

1. If you need to go outside for a good amount of time dress in several layers and wear a waterproof or windproof outer layer.
2. The nose, earlobes, and fingertips tend to be highly susceptible to frostbite so always keep these parts covered. The body loses approximately 40% of its heat through the head. Wearing a hat will conserve body heat.
3. Always monitor young children and the elderly closely when outside in the cold because they are more prone to cold related injuries.
4. If you are going to be out in the cold for a long period of time do not smoke or drink alcohol this makes the body's circulatory system change and causes the body to become colder.
5. Before freezing weather arrives check, or have a professional check the anti-freeze level in your car. It is a good idea to carry an "emergency pack" consisting of blankets, extra clothing, etc. in your car and make sure your tank is full of gas. You never know when you may be stuck or stalled in your car for an extended period of time.
6. If your heater is not working in your house do not attempt to heat the house with the oven. Burning gas in a closed house uses up oxygen and produces deadly carbon monoxide gases.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Thanksgiving Cooking Tips From The Nichols Hills Fire Dept.

1. Clean any grease build up from the stove and exhaust fan before cooking.
2. Cooking grease and oil will ignite easily; always have a lid or bigger pan to smother a small pan fire.
3. Do not use water or flour on a grease fire it will only spread the fire. Keep a lid or a small kitchen fire extinguisher handy or cover it with a wet towel. Do not attempt to carry a pan of burning grease outside.
4. Keep pot handles turned inward, out of reach of children and avoid reaching over the stove for anything while cooking.
5. Keep appliance cords up on the counter tops out of reach of children and make sure you check the cords for any frays or broken spots.
6. Never leave cooking unattended, if you leave be sure and turn the heat off.
7. Shield yourself from steam when uncovering food. Steam can cause serious burns.
8. Dress for fire safety in the kitchen. Do not wear loose fit clothes such as nightgowns, bathrobes, etc. while cooking.
9. Do not place outdoor fryers under the eaves of the house or under awnings. If the fryer grease ignites it can spread to eaves or awnings.

Thanks and Stay Safe

POLICE DEPARTMENT

HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY TIPS

The holiday season is here. Along with all the family and festivities, there can also be a great deal of stress. Planning for out-of-town relatives, shopping for family and friends, and dealing with the normal daily activities can add to that stress. When your mind is on other things it can lead you to forget about personal safety. We have all heard stories of someone who had all their Christmas gifts stolen from their cars, or even right from their arms. Here are some tips to help keep you and your property safe during this season.

When you are out in public, present an alert, confidence appearance.

Be aware of your surroundings. Take note of the vehicles and persons around you, and don't be afraid to make eye contact. Thieves will target people who appear distracted or preoccupied.

Park your vehicle in a well lit, easy to access area.

Dark, isolated places are wonderful targets for thieves. Try to park your vehicle in a well lit area. If you feel you are being followed to your vehicle, don't be afraid to make a commotion to draw attention to your situation. And don't use your key fob to unlock your door when you are far away from your vehicle; wait until you are close.

Keep valuables close at hand.

Keep your wallet or your cash in your front pocket (the back pocket is the pick-pocket's best friend). If you carry a purse, try and wear the strap diagonally across your body, rather than just over your shoulder. Have your car keys in hand before you leave the store. Avoid wearing expensive jewelry when shopping.

Do NOT keep items of value in your vehicle.

Leaving items of value in plain view in your vehicle is an invitation to thieves. Try to remove all items before parking and **locking** your car. If there is some reason you cannot remove the items, cover them up so they are not obvious. One reason SUVs and pickup trucks are common targets is because they have no trunk. Once you are home, remove all valuables from your vehicle. Do not leave them sitting in the car overnight.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Be careful using ATM machines.

If you see anyone lurking around the ATM machine, find another one to use. Try to use ATMs during daylight hours. If you must use an ATM at night, try and use one in a well lighted, populated area, such as the ATMs inside a convenience store. Always be aware of the people around you.

Ask for a security escort if you feel unsafe.

Whether you are at the mall or super-center store, if you feel unsafe, ask an employee to have security walk you to your vehicle. This service is provided by most retailers.

Make sure there is no one lurking near your home or garage.

Thieves have been known to follow citizens home. Be aware of any vehicles that appear to be following you after you leave the store. Before you open your garage door, make sure there is no one around. If you pull into your garage and find someone in there with you, stay in your vehicle and back out, even if it means backing out through your garage door. A garage door is much easier to replace than you are.

We hope these tips help keep you and your family safe during this Holiday season. If you have any questions regarding your personal safety, feel free to give us a call here at the Police Department. The number is 843-5672. The men and women of the Nichols Hills Police Department wish you all a very safe and happy Holiday season.



CITY HALL

The Nichols Hills City Council recently passed an ordinance that allows restaurant and cafe' sales and service to be conducted outside the confines of an enclosed building. The same ordinance also allows for the temporary display and sale of merchandise to be conducted outside the confines of a building under certain conditions, but not more than twice per year with each occurrence not to exceed 48 hours.



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!).

Available For Adoption:



2 year old Chocolate Lab or Chesapeake Bay Retriever mix about 64 pounds, now neutered, heartworm negative and fully vaccinated. Housetrained, very good natured - NEEDS a big place because when he is in dog runs or crates and sees people he wags his tail so hard he gets "happy tail" and it is bloody and needs to be wrapped!
Please consider fostering him (or any of the ARFies) over the Thanksgiving Holiday week November 25 - December 1st when ARF will once again be limited on boarding space.