

City Page July 3rd

Joshua Family 4th Picnic & Fireworks

Be part of the first ever Joshua Family 4th Picnic and Fireworks show. The community event will be held Friday July 4th at Joshua High School Owls Stadium. Gates to the stadium will open at 7:00 pm and the fireworks will start cracking at dark. Bring a picnic and blanket for your family and enjoy the bounce houses, clowns and magicians that will provide entertainment until the fireworks show begins. This event is being brought to you through sponsorships of local businesses including Chesapeake Energy, Liberty Ford, Allenco, and Honda West in cooperation with the City of Joshua, the Joshua Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Joshua Independent School District. No alcoholic beverages or smoking please. See you there!

Remember Popping Individual Fireworks is Illegal within the City Limits

Professional fireworks displays are allowed within the City limits with a permit. However, the purchase, sale and ignition of individual fireworks within the corporate limits of the City are prohibited by ordinance. Violators can be fined up to \$2,000, so please do not pop fireworks within the City limits this 4th of July or any time.

Delay in Recycling Bin Delivery

IESI has been delivering recycling bins to each home. There was a delay in deliver of some of the bins, but all Joshua residents should have a recycling bin as of this past Tuesday July 1st. If you live within the City limits of Joshua and still have not received a bin, please contact IESI at 817-222-2221. Recyclables will be collected every Wednesday starting July 2nd and continuing through the next 12 months. Remember, the City of Joshua received a grant from the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) through funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to provide recycling services to all residents of Joshua free of charge for one year. So take advantage of the free recycling service, and "go green" to help the environment and your community.

City to Host Summer Community Clean Up July 11th – 13th

The City of Joshua will host its first ever Summer Community Clean Up event July 11th – July 13th. Residents will be able to drop off any brush or bulky waste items at the City's service center from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Friday July 11th through Sunday July 13th. There will be a \$5 fee for disposal of tires and batteries. The City cannot collect any paint, pesticides, car parts, or any item with a compressor. The City of Joshua normally provides two Community Clean Up events each year, one in the spring and one in the fall. But, the City was awarded a grant from the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) through funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to provide two (2) additional Community Clean Up events each year. The July Clean Up event will be the first of the expanded events. There will be additional clean up events in October and January.

Rabies FYI

Many people believe that rabies is more prevalent in July and August, but, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) most cases in Texas occur in the spring but the disease does occur year round in both wild and domestic animals. Rabies is transmitted through the saliva of a rabid animal. All warm blooded animals including humans are susceptible to rabies. The most commonly affected animals in Texas are skunks, bats, coyotes and foxes.

Domestic dogs, cats and livestock usually acquire rabies infections from wild animals. Unvaccinated dogs and cats are highly susceptible to the disease, and, according to the DSHS, if an unvaccinated dog or cat is bitten by a known rabid animal it should be destroyed immediately. Vaccinated animals that are bitten by a known rabid animal should be revaccinated immediately and confined for at least 45 days. Joshua's Animal Control ordinance requires that all dogs and cats that are at least 4 months of age be vaccinated against rabies every year, and that pets wear their rabies vaccination tag at all times. This is critical in the effort to control rabies in our community. Effective control efforts also include registration and licensing of all owned dogs (which is also required by Joshua's Animal Control ordinance), impoundment or reclamation by the owner of all stray dogs, elimination of all unwanted dogs, and quarantine of rabies suspects. Residents are reminded to avoid contact with stray or unfamiliar animals, especially wildlife. If you see an animal that you suspect may be rabid, please contact the City of Joshua Animal Shelter at 817-774-9450. For more information concerning rabies, please visit the DSHS web site at www.dshs.state.tx.us.

Council to Continue Review of Proposed Revisions to Sign Regulations at July Meeting

During the June 19th City Council meeting the Council reviewed and discussed some proposed revisions to the current City of Joshua sign regulations, but tabled action on the ordinance until July. The proposed revisions to the sign regulations are designed to clarify the requirements and make them easier to enforce. The changes include allowing for "kiosk" type signs to help eliminate visual clutter of signs advertising housing developments, a provision allowing the City to regulate signs in its extraterritorial jurisdiction or ETJ, provisions to clarify portable sign regulations, and clarification of rules related to garage sale signs. The City Council will continue discussion regarding the proposed changes to the Sign Ordinance during the July 17th City Council meeting. Sign regulations are put in place in an effort to reduce distractions for drivers, which might otherwise create public health and safety hazards, and to reduce the visual clutter that may result over time with excessive signage. The overall intent of the current ordinance as well as the proposed revisions is to balance the need for a safe, well maintained and attractive physical appearance of the community with the need for adequate business identification.

Upcoming City Meetings and Events

- City Offices closed Friday, July 4th
- Family 4th Picnic & Fireworks – Friday, July 4th 7:00 pm
- Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting – Monday July 7th 7:00 pm
- 4A Economic Development Commission regular meeting – Tuesday July 8th 5:30 pm
- 4B Economic Development Commission regular meeting – Tuesday July 8th 7:00 pm
- Summer Community Clean Up July 11th – 13th 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
- City Council Regular Meeting – Thursday July 17th 7:00 pm