

City Page
April 21, 2009

New Features on City Web Site

The City Web Site has recently been updated to offer better service to the community. Residents may now use the Citizen Request link to inquire about matters related to the City. You can send a message or request information from City Staff, or leave information to a department head about a complaint that you would like addressed. Please visit the City Web Site at www.cityofjoshuatx.us

City Council Election Information

City Council elections for places 2, 4 and 6 will be held Saturday, May 9th. The following individuals have filed for candidacy and will appear in the following order on the ballot:

City Council Place 2 Glen Walden (incumbent)

City Council Place 4 AJ Mathieu

 Butch Maxfield (incumbent)

 Larry Taylor

City Council Place 6 Larry Allen

 Bob Neely (incumbent)

On Election Day, polls will be located at the Joshua High School Community Room, 907 South Broadway, and will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted at City Hall, 101 South Main St., beginning April 27th and ending May 5th. Early voting hours will be Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Extended early voting hours of 7:00 am to 7:00 pm will be offered Monday April 27th and Wednesday April 29th. Anyone who wishes to vote in this election must be registered by April 9, 2009.

Code Compliance: High Grass & Weeds

In an effort to build a safer and more attractive community, the City of Joshua has initiated more proactive enforcement of many City codes. First and foremost, we want to be sure that property owners know the major code requirements, so that residents and property owners can be sure

you stay in compliance. To this end, the City will begin highlighting the major code requirements each week in the City Page in an effort to educate residents on what each code means.

Spring time brings beautiful flowers, growing grass, and, unfortunately, unsightly weeds. So, spring is an appropriate time to highlight City requirements related to high grass and weeds.

People often wonder: Why is the City concerned about grass and weeds on private property? The first thing people normally think of is that high grass and weeds are an unsightly eyesore that decreases the beauty and ambience of our neighborhoods, and can bring down property values.

What residents may not realize is that high grass and weeds can be dangerous too because tall grass also:

- Poses a fire hazard,
- Blocks visibility,
- Harbors rodents and snakes, and
- Contributes to pests like mosquitoes and chiggers

Joshua City Ordinances say that property owners are responsible for maintaining their lots, and that grass and weeds that average over 12 inches high are a violation.

To stay within Code, property owners should keep lots mowed to less than 12 inches. If your grass is taller than 12 inches, you may receive a certified notice to mow your yard and will have 10 days to complete the task.

If the lot is not mowed after 10 days, the City can hire a contractor to complete the job and charge the property owners for mowing costs and labor. If the City mows the property and the property owner fails to pay the bill, the City can place a lien against the property. Liens stay with the property and are assessed interest penalties until they are paid.

By far, the cheaper, most efficient and safest alternative is for owners to keep lots maintained so that they are less than 12 inches.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

April 27, 2009	Early Voting begins at City Hall	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
May 9, 2009	Election Day (Community Room at High School)	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

