

**City Page**  
**December 31, 2009**

**Fireworks are illegal in the City Limits of Joshua**

- In 2006, fireworks caused an estimated 32,600 reported fires, including 1,700 total structure fires, 600 vehicle fires, and 30,300 outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated 6 civilian deaths, 70 civilian injuries and \$34 million in direct property damage.
- In 2007, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 9,800 people for fireworks related injuries; 56% of 2007 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and 36% were to the head.
- The risk of fireworks injury was two-and-a-half times as high for children ages 5-9 or 10-14 as for the general population.
- On Independence Day in a typical year, more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day, and fireworks account for half of those fires, more than any other cause of fires.

Remember that fireworks are illegal within the City Limits of Joshua. Persons that are found to be in possession of fireworks in the city will be issued a citation and the fireworks will be confiscated by Police. Fines for violating fireworks ordinances start at \$264.00.

**Christmas Tree Collection**

Residents that have Christmas Trees that need to be hauled away may place the trees alongside the trash on collection days. IESI will remove trees at no additional charge on regular collection days of Tuesday and Friday. Any tree that is more than 9 feet in height, should be cut in half and placed at the curb. Trees will be collected for the next several weeks. For more information, please contact Joshua City Hall at 817-558-7447 or visit the city website at [www.cityofjoshuatx.us](http://www.cityofjoshuatx.us)

**Protect your Pets from the Cold**

If you live in a region where the winters are cold, then you probably have a yearly routine to prepare yourself for the season change. You might change out your wardrobe, get your car ready for winter, and insulate your home. Don't forget to take precautions to keep your dog warm and healthy. There are plenty of many winter hazards out there, such as antifreeze and ice. Take steps to keep your dog safe! Here are some cold weather tips to you and your dog this winter:

- Do not leave your dog outside unsupervised without a heated shelter. Just because your dog has fur, it does not mean he can withstand the cold. Though some dog breeds (like Huskies and Malamutes) are better suited to cold weather, all dogs

should have access to a warm shelter at all times. Most dogs do best living indoors. However, if your dog must live outdoors, provide a heated dog bed and adequate shelter.

- Small dogs or those with little to no hair should have sweaters or jackets for protection against the cold. Some of the most common breeds that will benefit from protective clothing are Chihuahuas, Miniature Pinschers, Whippets, and Greyhounds. Remember, not all dogs will tolerate clothing, so don't push it – just make an extra effort to keep them out of the cold. Keep food and water in a place where they will not freeze - preferably inside! A heated dog bowl can help outdoor water and food from freezing.
- Watch those feet! If your dog will tolerate it, consider foot protection booties. This can keep your dog's feet safe from harm, such as dangerous objects hidden by the snow or salt on roads and walk ways. Additionally, booties can help give your dog a better grip and prevent slipping on ice.
- If your dog is in the cold and begins excessively shaking or shivering, get him back to warm shelter as soon as possible. If you suspect your dog is developing hypothermia, bring him to a vet immediately.
- Avoid letting your dog eat snow or anything else on the ground. Dangerous objects or chemicals may be hidden in the snow. Also, eating snow this can cause stomach upset and even hypothermia. Always keep fresh room temperature water available at all times.
- Beware of Antifreeze- It is highly toxic! Antifreeze tastes good to pets, but even a small amount can kill your dog. Though exposure to antifreeze is a risk all year, the risk is especially high during the colder months. Keep your eyes on your dog at all times - and keep antifreeze out of reach. If you suspect your dog has had ANY exposure to antifreeze, get to a vet right away.
- In general, be sure to contact your vet if any abnormal behavior or signs of illness appear.

Did you know that your dog's normal temperature is a few degrees higher than yours? Winter is the perfect time of year to snuggle up – so have fun and stay warm!

### **Citizens Police Academy to begin January 12, 2009**

A few spots remain open for the first citizen's police academy which begins January 12, 2009. The program will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. for 10 weeks. A dinner will be served each night of class. Graduates will receive a certificate, various handouts, and a shirt that will be worn during events worked. There are still a few spaces remaining for the program. Interested persons should contact the police department for more information, or visit the city website at [www.cityofjoshuatx.us](http://www.cityofjoshuatx.us)

### **Community Emergency Response Team**

The City of Joshua Fire Department will be hosting the CERT or Citizens Emergency Response Training program on January 9 and January 16, 2009. The purpose of the CERT team will be to assist area Fire Departments in emergency incidents. The two day training program will provide training in Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety, Medical First Aid, Search and Rescue, Psychology and Terrorism. Certificates will be issued upon the completion of training on January 16, 2009. Training will be held at the Johnson County Fire Training Center in Cleburne. Only 20 persons will be accepted to the team. For more information, contact Glen Hargrove at 817-558-7447 or email to [firemarshal@cityofjoshuatx.us](mailto:firemarshal@cityofjoshuatx.us)

### **City Office Closings for the Holidays**

January 1, 2010

New Years Day

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

Joshua Planning and Zoning Meeting  
Joshua Type A EDC Board Meeting  
Joshua Type B EDC Board Meeting  
Joshua City Council Meeting

January 4, 2010 @7:00 p.m.  
January 11, 2010 @ 6:30 p.m.  
January 12, 2010 @7:00 p.m.  
January 21, 2010 @7:00 p.m.