

CITY PRESS

PLAY TIME!

DOZENS OF PARKS TO GET UPDATED PLAYGROUNDS



From Mayor Scott LeMay

Moments in time produce opportunities. At about this time last year, the City celebrated the grand opening of the newly renovated Carver Senior Center that once was the home of the segregated Carver High School. With help from the Carver Alumni Association, the City was able to produce a timeline mural that is permanently displayed at the Center to capture Carver's days as a segregated school. The result is both a vastly improved neighborhood resource and a dignified but truthful telling of Garland's history — our living testimonial that separate is neither equal nor best.

At this moment in time, we have an opportunity to improve policing programs and procedures through open dialogue with the Garland community. The Garland Police Department has been an outstanding leader in the nation with its community policing programs. It also banned, decades ago, the police practices currently being criticized across the nation. Garland's Police Chief, Jeff Bryan, called for community conversation because there is always room for improvement, particularly in a police force that strives to be better with each passing year. A big thank you to our Community Leaders group that is helping host and moderate these discussions. These open meetings will take place at a variety of places and times across the Garland community, so be watching for future announcements.

I hope you will take advantage of another opportunity by filling out the 2020 census. The census will prove what we already know: that Garland is one of the most diverse and integrated cities in the nation. In Garland, we are more likely to live, work and play alongside someone who doesn't look like us or share a common background. I'm proud to serve as Mayor for just such a community.



I'm even prouder that we embrace our diversity. Garland is a place where we value each other's varied experiences and we make a point to learn from one another. Our City organization seeks a workforce that best reflects the people we serve. Under City Manager Bryan Bradford's leadership, we have dedicated more resources than ever toward diversity recruitment and efforts to attract police and fire applicants who resemble the Garland community. We have increased our recruitment staff and participate on more than a hundred online job sites that target people of color, veterans, women and individuals with disabilities. Furthermore, we are actively involved with the Texas Diversity Council and local partnerships focused on minority representation. These are critical efforts that will help us reach our ultimate goal of mirroring the community we serve.

In Garland, we work **together** to make our city a better place than it was yesterday and a better place tomorrow than it is today. It's the basic calling of anyone who is truly dedicated to public service. As your Mayor, I'm asking you to join the conversation, be part of the solution, and participate in efforts to make Garland a place where we all belong.

A Message from Chief of Police Jeff Bryan



I want to speak in the wake of the uncertainty and the unrest that is currently surrounding law enforcement.

Several weeks ago, I watched a police officer wearing the same uniform that I wear treat another human being, George Floyd, as if his life did not matter. That has shocked and disgusted me personally. It has shaken every member of this police department. It has shaken our community.

That is not what the Garland Police Department stands for. That video does not represent who we are in Garland.

We had a large protest in Garland and I had the privilege of participating. I was surprised how therapeutic and how healing it was, and to discover that we all have the same goals. We all want to feel safe and we all want to be treated fairly. And it is my job to make sure everyone in Garland has that feeling of security.

There are 18,000 police departments in the United States, and by design, each police department should be a reflection of the community it serves. The Garland Police Department is a reflection of the goals and mission of this City Council, of this City Manager and more importantly, of this community. When things go wrong, it's often because the police departments have stopped listening to what their community is saying.

The vast majority of the 800,000 police officers in the United States are good police officers. I can't fully explain the pain that a good police officer — those who risk their lives in the line of duty every day — is feeling right now. The trust they built in their communities is being torn down by incidents of bad policing. But I also think that as a police profession we are being disingenuous to blame this problem on just a few bad officers without reflecting on how we can improve a system in which these bad officers operate.

I am proud of the Garland Police Department's high standards and what we've accomplished in this city. But we can learn. There are things we can do better through our training, practices, policies and procedures. By listening to our community, we're going to learn to improve this police department.

I am consulting with area police chiefs and professional organizations on best practices for protection of both the public and our police officers. We introduced a Duty-to-Intervene Policy, even though our oath of office commands us to intervene when someone is in need. But before we finalize what the Garland Police Department will look like in the aftermath of George Floyd, I'd like to hear from our community. I want to know what you want policing to look like in Garland.

And I want our community to learn about us and what makes us different. I encourage everyone to take the opportunities to meet the Garland Police Department. To engage in the positive programs that we already have in place; our Citizen Police Academy, our youth police academy, our Neighborhood Police Officer Program, our Neighborhood Crime Watch Program, our boxing gym program. There are fantastic programs coming out of the Garland Police Department that you won't find anywhere else.

We are more than police officers in our community. We are part of this community. But we also can't let this opportunity pass without working together to improve policing in Garland.



“IT’S GROW TIME”

Website Launched to Track Projects

On the Cover: The City is unveiling new inclusive playground equipment at Central Park. The 2019 bond program includes playground upgrades at 24 other parks.

A new website, BuildGarland.com, helps Garland residents keep track of the boldest public investment in the City’s history.

At BuildGarland.com, the \$423.7 million in improvements approved by voters in 2019 is broken down by each of the bond’s eight propositions and then by individual projects. You can find out the location, cost, schedule and status of each project.

The website can track the many projects that are now out of the starting gate. Design work is underway for the City’s new animal shelter and adoption center. The 23,000-square-foot facility will incorporate the latest technology and accommodations for more than twice the number of animals than the current City shelter. Among the features will be adoption areas for City residents to gain familiarity with the pets. Construction at 1900 State Highway 66 is scheduled to start late this year.

Design work has also started for the reconstruction of Naaman School Road between Brand Road and Lavon Drive. The plan includes raising the road over Spring Creek, creating an enclosed storm drain system and a hiking trail. Not only will flooding issues be addressed, but the new four-lane divided street will significantly improve the capacity of Naaman School Road.

The City will also install new playgrounds at various park sites as part of the 2019 bond election. Improvements are planned at 24 area playgrounds, in many cases replacing play structures that are more than 20 years old. The playground work is scheduled to be finished over the next couple years.

Another project from the \$117.8 million Parks 2019 bond proposition, upgrades to Audubon Recreation Center, will also start this year. You can find out more about that project on page 13 and, of course, at BuildGarland.com.

BuildGarland.com

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GarlandTX.gov

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Note: As Garland venues reopen from the COVID-19 pandemic, check GarlandTX.gov for arts, library, parks and other program listings.



On the Web
GarlandTX.gov

Email
Garland@GarlandTX.gov

On Social Media
 [@GarlandTXGOV](https://www.instagram.com/GarlandTXGOV)

 **City of Garland, Texas Government**
[#MYMGarland](https://www.facebook.com/GarlandTXGOV) [#GarlandTX](https://www.facebook.com/GarlandTX)

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The City will accept applications from July 13 through Aug. 10 for a successor to a current Garland Housing Finance Corp. (GHFC) term that ends Aug. 31.

GHFC is a public nonprofit corporation that carries out state law to finance the cost of residential ownership and development to provide housing. GHFC can acquire mortgages and work with lending institutions to make loans for housing.

A resume and letter of interest may be submitted to René Dowl, City Secretary, at RDowl@GarlandTX.gov or to City Hall, 200 N. Fifth St., Garland 75040.

The U.S. Census Bureau is now dropping off 2020 census questionnaire packets at front doors of households in Dallas County.

This is the next phase of the effort to satisfy the full count of people living in the United States as required every 10 years by the Constitution. There have been efforts through local government, social media and the mail since early spring. The in-person delivery is a follow-up, typically in areas where most people do not get their mail at their physical address.

Usually, the in-person phase of census outreach starts earlier. However, all field work for census 2020 was suspended March 18 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Census field staff have been trained to observe all social distancing protocol and will wear government-provided personal protective equipment for their safety and the safety of the public. This operation is contactless and follows health and safety guidelines.

You can respond online, by phone or by using the paper form in the packet. It takes about 10 minutes to complete the census. Your response is a civic duty and all information is kept confidential. Visit census2020.gov.

English: 844-330-2020
Spanish: 844-468-2020
Vietnamese: 844-461-2020

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States
Census
2020

JULY 14 RUNOFF ELECTION

Voting for the Democratic Party primary runoff election opened June 29 and continues until Election Day, Tuesday, July 14. Early voting is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 29 through Thursday, July 2; and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, July 5, through Friday, July 10. Early voting locations include Richland College-Garland, 675 W. Walnut St., and South Garland Branch Library, 4845 Broadway Blvd. Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 14.

CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE

City Council Work Sessions

- Live broadcast – 6 p.m. July 6 and 20, Aug. 3 and 17
- Rebroadcast the following Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 9 a.m., Wednesday and Thursday – 7 p.m.

City Council Regular Meetings

- Live broadcast – 7 p.m. July 7 and 21, Aug. 4 and 18
- Rebroadcast the following Wednesday – 9 a.m., Friday – 7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday – 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Plan Commission

- Meetings – 7 p.m. July 13 and 27, Aug. 10 and 24
- Rebroadcast the following Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 9 a.m.

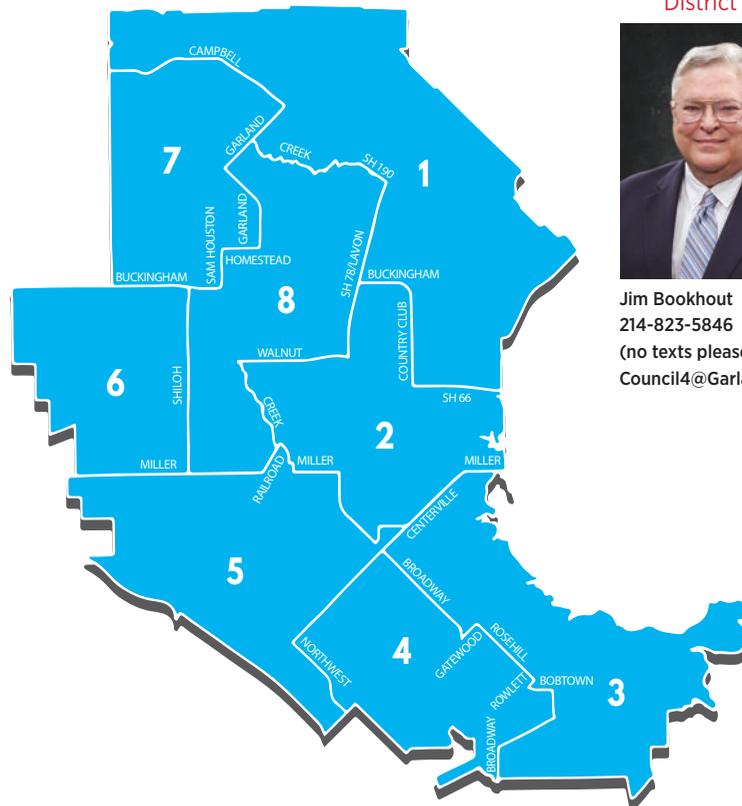
CGTV Listings

Channel 16 (Spectrum), Channel 44 (Frontier) or Channel 99 (AT&T U-verse), GarlandTX.tv

» Meeting dates and times subject to change.

» Meetings are broadcast at GarlandTX.gov via live streaming and on-demand, and on CGTV with several rebroadcasts during the week of the meeting.

City Council Members



Mayor



Scott LeMay
972-205-2400
214-794-8904
Mayor@GarlandTX.gov

District 1



David Gibbons
214-497-7121
Council1@GarlandTX.gov

District 2



Deborah Morris
214-273-4387
Council2@GarlandTX.gov

District 3



Jerry Nickerson
972-205-2292
Council3@GarlandTX.gov

District 4



Jim Bookhout
214-823-5846
(no texts please)
Council4@GarlandTX.gov

District 5



Rich Aubin
972-325-2529
Council5@GarlandTX.gov

District 6



Robert Vera
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
469-782-4482
Council6@GarlandTX.gov

District 7



Dylan Hedrick
469-560-6099
Council7@GarlandTX.gov

District 8



Robert John Smith
Mayor Pro Tem
469-223-4723
Council8@GarlandTX.gov

Keep up with
the latest public
meetings.

Receive public meeting agendas in your inbox.

- 1 Visit GarlandTX.gov.
- 2 Click on the "Public Meeting Agendas" link.
- 3 Click on the blue "Subscribe" button.
- 4 Select the agendas you want to receive.

P.A.I.D. Program

Lets You Help Neighbors with Utility Bills

Looking for a way to help your neighbors during these challenging times? You can help with their utility bills by contributing to Provide Aid in Dollars (P.A.I.D.). The option to contribute is available on your City utility bill. Funds are distributed through the Salvation Army to economically challenged families.

The City of Garland is working with its utilities customers who are struggling. We strongly encourage customers to contact Utility Customer Service at **972-205-2671** or **CustServ@GarlandTX.gov** to discuss their situation and how we may be able to assist. Please include your service address and account number in any correspondence.

Information on how to apply for the P.A.I.D. program is available on the Utility Customer Service webpage at **GarlandUtilities.org**.



Now Available Online

Every year, the Garland Water Utilities Department publishes updated drinking water test results taken from various points in the city. You can find the results and other important information about your drinking water in this year's Consumer Confidence Report at **GarlandWater.com/ConsumerConfidenceReport**.

GarlandWater.com



Artist Cullin Lassiter (right) led last year's community mural project at Oates Road (left).



Mural in Ablon Park

Residents of The Oaks neighborhood in southernmost Garland partnered with the Office of Neighborhood Vitality (ONV), creating art to highlight their area's beautiful pond and green space. The work was done as part of the **Where the Heart Is** neighborhood revitalization program.

Garland artist Cullin Lassiter designed an aquatic-themed mural and coordinating artwork for Ablon Park, Oaks Branch Greenbelt and walking paths throughout The Oaks neighborhood.

Residents began meeting with ONV regularly in September to discuss physical and social improvements within their community. They wanted to strengthen neighborhood pride, prevent litter and encourage fellow residents to enjoy walking in their neighborhood.

When social restrictions are lifted, the project will be completed with a volunteer workday, where residents will work together on other beautification projects throughout the neighborhood.



Neighborhood Vitality

Matching Grant Program and Workshop

The Letter of Intent deadline for the Neighborhood Vitality Matching Grant (NVMG) program is Thursday, July 23. Neighborhood groups that are registered with the Office of Neighborhood Vitality may apply for up to \$100,000 in matching funds for neighborhood enhancement projects on public property.

Need a little help? Attend the virtual NVMG Workshop at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, to gain valuable technical assistance and learn tips for completing a successful project.

Register for the workshop and download program guidelines, forms and more at **GarlandNeighborhoods.org**. For more details, email **Neighborhoods@GarlandTX.gov** or call **972-205-2445**.



HOME IMPROVEMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Now Accepting Applications

Great homes make great neighborhoods! There's a new resource for residents to make improvements to their homes in Garland and we want you to take advantage.

Eligible applicants can receive a 50% rebate on pre-approved exterior work up to \$10,000. Download the program policy and application packet at GarlandNeighborhoods.org.

Eligibility:

- A single-family house within Garland city limits
- The total appraised value of the property according to the Dallas Central Appraisal District cannot exceed \$175,000
- The dwelling must be at least 30 years old
- The dwelling cannot be a mobile home, duplex or townhome
- If dwelling is a rental property, the owner must be registered with Code Compliance as an active participant in the Landlord Certification Training program
- The applicant must be current on all payments for property taxes and utilities
- No work prior to application approval will be considered



Possible projects include:

- Re-shingling roof
- Window replacement
- Soffit and fascia replacement
- Driveway replacement
- Repaint house
- Foundation repair

Additional requirements apply. Please review the program policy for more details.

GarlandNeighborhoods.org

Housing Discrimination Has No Place in Our Community



The City of Garland Fair Housing Services provides protection against discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of housing based on:

- Color
- Race
- National origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Disability
- Age

The only way to stop housing discrimination is for you to report it. Contact us to learn more.

Garland Fair Housing Services,
210 Carver St., Suite 102A
972-205-3300
GarlandTX.gov

Services are available in English and Spanish and by appointment in Vietnamese and Korean.



Pictured: Shirley Walker-King (left) and District 2 City Council Member Deborah Morris

Neighborhoods, USA Recognizes Garland Neighborhood Leadership

Neighborhoods, USA recognized two Garland neighborhoods and one neighborhood leader at its annual national awards ceremony May 21.

Shirley Walker-King was named the 2020 Who's Who in America's Neighborhoods, a title reserved for one individual each year who exemplifies leadership in their neighborhood, community and city – a tremendous honor.

Travis College Hill Neighborhood was awarded third place Neighborhood of the Year for the original one-act play *Becoming Garland Avenue*. The play recounted the history and human interest stories of Travis College Hill, a neighborhood beside Garland High School and near Downtown.

Oakridge Neighborhood Association in west Garland was also recognized as a finalist for Neighborhood of the Year for a program that provides annual holiday meals for those working at nearby fire stations.

Neighborhoods, USA is a national nonprofit organization committed to building and strengthening neighborhood organizations. The ceremony was virtual instead of at the traditional national conference, a diversion made necessary by the COVID-19 pandemic. A big congratulations to all the award recipients!

635 East Project

The \$1.7 billion project to improve Interstate 635 through Garland continues during the summer with work on bridges and drainage. Crews also continue to place temporary pavement throughout the 11-mile freeway corridor, which will allow traffic flow as existing pavement is removed and replaced. In addition, there is ongoing work to relocate utility lines.



To learn more, visit 635east.com.

WHAT'S BEING BUILT THERE?

Garland is buzzing with new development.

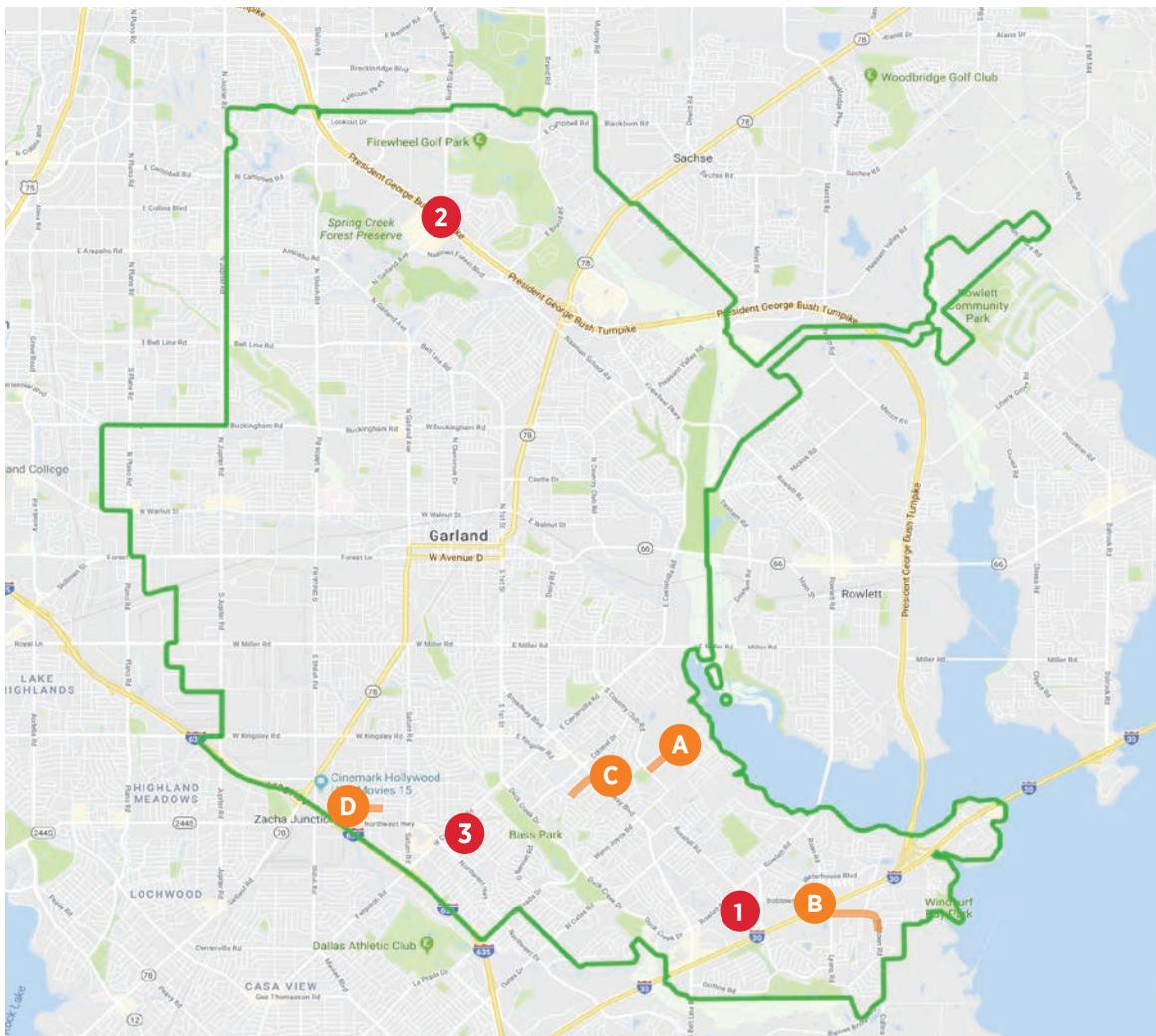


1 Progress toward redevelopment continues along Rosehill Road. Power lines have been buried along the east side of Rosehill in order to allow for enhanced pedestrian-friendly streetscaping. Construction continues for The Parks at Rosehill, a 127-lot single-family development. Entry monument signs have been installed along Rosehill and Interstate 30.

2 Under site construction near the southeast corner of the Bush Turnpike and North Garland Avenue is a future Murphy Oil gas station and convenience store, with additional pad sites for future development.



3 Under construction at 702 W. Centerville Road is a building for retail and dental office use. The site had been previously approved for an El Pollo Loco restaurant but it did not move forward.



Taking It to the Streets

Projects scheduled to begin in July/August

Brookcrest Drive/Forest Park Drive alley, Brand Road to Century Park Drive
Alley reconstruction

Elderberry Drive/Lemon Tree Lane alley, Elderberry Drive to Zion Road
Alley reconstruction

Kingswood Drive/Queenswood Drive alley, Kingsbridge Drive alley to Ridgeway Drive
Alley reconstruction

Mayflower Drive alley, Apache Drive to Wynn Joyce Road
Alley reconstruction

A Toler Trail, Country Club Road to Luther Lane
Street reconstruction

Ongoing projects

B Bobtown Road, Lyons Road to High Drive
Concrete street repair

Brookcrest Drive/Forest Park Drive alley, Brand Road to Westpark Drive
Alley reconstruction

Hidalgo Court/O'Banion Road alley, Hidalgo Court to LaPrada Drive alley
Alley reconstruction

Hidalgo Court/LaPrada Drive alley, Hidalgo Court alley to O'Banion alley
Alley reconstruction

C Jamestown Drive, Commonwealth Drive to Williamsburg Drive
Street reconstruction

D Mayfield Avenue, Clear Point Drive to Jackson Drive
Street reconstruction

Mayflower Drive alley, Gatewood Road to Wynn Joyce Road
Alley reconstruction



Put Vaccinations on Your Back-to-School List

Some uncertainty remains during this unprecedented time as to when classes will resume in the fall. Yet, all students still need to be up to date on their immunizations.

The Garland Independent School District has issued a reminder that updated vaccinations are required even if teaching resumes in a virtual environment.

Getting children up to date on vaccinations is one of the most important things parents can do to protect the health of their children and the community.

This year in Texas, school children through grade 10 are required to have two hepatitis A vaccinations.

The COVID-19 pandemic is changing rapidly and continues to affect communities differently. When children are not vaccinated, they are at increased risk of disease and can spread diseases to others — including infants who are too young to be fully vaccinated and people with weakened immune systems.

Many children in Garland are eligible for free or low-cost vaccinations through the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program. Funded with federal and state money, the program provides vaccines to eligible children from birth through 18 years of age. Children who do not have health insurance or who have health insurance that does not cover vaccines qualify for TVFC vaccines, as well as children who are enrolled in Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Conveniently located at 206 Carver Drive, the Garland Public Health Clinic not only provides low-cost immunizations for infants, children and adults, but also accepts most insurance plans. We encourage parents to bring their school-age children in to be vaccinated earlier this summer, rather than wait until just before school is scheduled to resume.

The clinic is open for appointments from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. You must call ahead of time to make an appointment to help us implement proper social distancing practices. Parents should bring a child's immunization records with them.

**Don't wait until the last minute to get caught up on immunizations!
Call 972-205-3370 for more information.**



MIDDLE SCHOOL:

1st Place: Braedyn Watkins - Hudson Middle School

2nd Place: Lillianne Waihi - Classical Center at Brandenburg Middle School

3rd Place: Jason Uzoukwu - Austin Academy

Fan Favorite: Braedyn Watkins

HIGH SCHOOL:

1st Place: Leah Coreas and Rafael Escalera - Lakeview Centennial High School

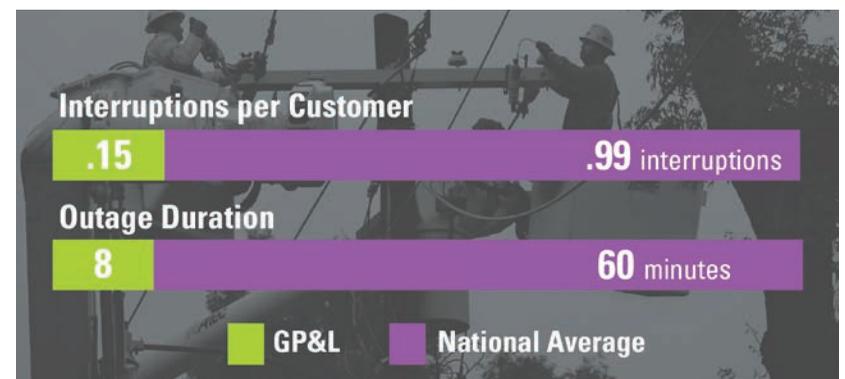
2nd Place: David Onadeko - Garland High School

3rd Place Tie: Abigail Gerber - Sachse High School and Timothy Do - Garland High School

Fan Favorites:

Leah Coreas and Rafael Escalera

GP&L Reliability Scores Beat National Averages



Garland Power & Light has excellent service reliability. As shown in the graphic above, GP&L's average outage duration and interruptions per customer are significantly less than national averages.

GP&L accomplishes this through proactive maintenance, system upgrades and a dedicated workforce ready to serve customers around the clock.

Learn more at gpltexas.org.



Learn more at WaterIsAwesome.com and NTMWD.com/SaveWater.





Free COVID-19 Testing for Residents

The City of Garland has partnered with a lab to provide 100 COVID-19 tests per day for Garland residents during July.

Lab testing capacity and funding availability caused limitations for COVID-19 testing in the early months of the pandemic. The City obtained federal funding that can be applied toward community COVID-19 testing and worked with Clinical Pathology Laboratories to obtain testing capacity in June and July.

The lab worked with long-time Garland medical providers Dr. Duane Hinshaw and Dr. David Carlson to provide sample collection services for the program.

The community testing program provides COVID-19 (PCR) testing free of charge to Garland residents. This test determines if you have active COVID-19 virus at the time of the test. It is not the antibody test to determine if you have been exposed to the virus.

To be eligible, you must provide documentation of residency, such as a driver's license or other ID with a Garland address, a Garland utility bill, or other form of

identification with a Garland address. Persons being tested must be age 2 or older. You will also need to obtain and complete a Garland Resident COVID-19 Test Form, which is available on the City website, GarlandTX.gov, and social media sites and at the test locations.

First Family Health Care

2201 Forest Lane
Monday through Friday 8 to 11:45 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m., Saturday 8 to 11:30 a.m.
(closed July 4)

By Appointment - Call 972-276-6822

Best Care Family Medical Center

4402 Broadway Blvd.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8 to 11:45 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m., Saturday 8 to 11:30 a.m.
(closed July 4)

**Drive-Thru, no appointment necessary
Call 972-240-1880 for information.**

Test results will be mailed to the address listed on the Garland Resident COVID-19 Test Form.

COMMERCIAL SERVICE FRANCHISE HAULER SPECIAL NOTICE

Any waste hauler operating within the city limits must have a franchise agreement in place before doing business in Garland per ordinance: *Sec. 52.27 Collection by persons other than City, franchise agreement*

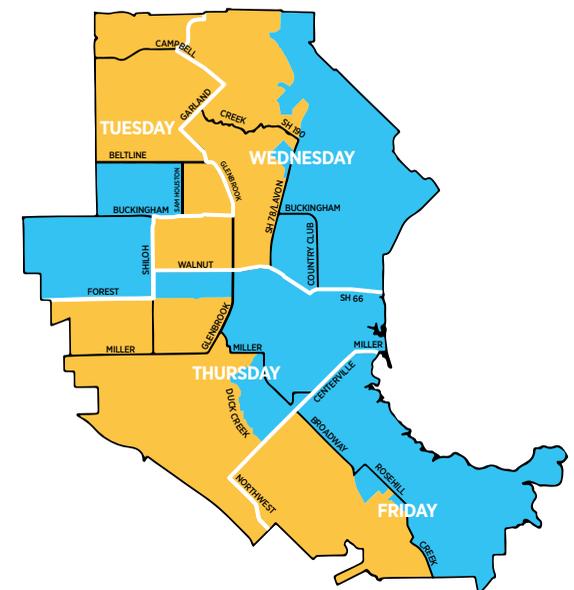
No person may engage in the collection of solid waste, landscape waste, bulky waste, or recycle materials within the city without first entering into a franchise agreement with the City for that purpose. (Ordinance 6907 adopted 5/16/17.)

Be certain to verify with your waste hauler that they have an active agreement in place.

The City of Garland's Environmental Waste Services actively serves the community with open top containers and front-load scheduled trash pickup service at competitive prices.

Call today for quick service and low prices.
972-205-3500 | EWSCCommercial@GarlandTX.gov
GarlandEWS.com

2020 Recycling Schedule



- Recycling collection occurs every other week on the same day as trash.
- To determine if you are a blue or yellow recycling week, visit MyGarland: maps.garlandtx.gov/maps/mygarland.

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Blue Collection Week
- Yellow Collection Week
- The Recycling Center, Transfer Station, Hinton Landfill and EWS Administration are closed in holiday observance.

Environmental Waste Services holidays are subject to change. Check GarlandEWS.com for updates.



THE CITY OF GARLAND IS SEEKING

CROSSING GUARDS

For the 2020-2021
School Year

**JOIN THE CITY OF GARLAND TEAM WITH
A REWARDING JOB OPPORTUNITY.**

To view the minimum qualifications and the complete job description, and to apply online, visit Careers.GarlandTX.gov.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Human Resources Department at Talent@GarlandTX.gov or call 972-205-2475, option 2.





Let us *take out the* **trash.**

Start commercial service within days!

Local, Experienced

- Service center, field supervisors and staff located in Garland
- Professional, tenured drivers

Competitive Rates

- No hidden fees, rates governed by City Council
- City-owned and operated landfill keeps service fees low

Customer-Driven

- Consistent pickup times, flexible schedules
- Special pickups accommodated

Container Types

- Roll-offs, front-loads, 90 gallon



Garland EWS
removes nearly **200 tons**
of **solid waste** and
recycling every day
from our City's business
community.

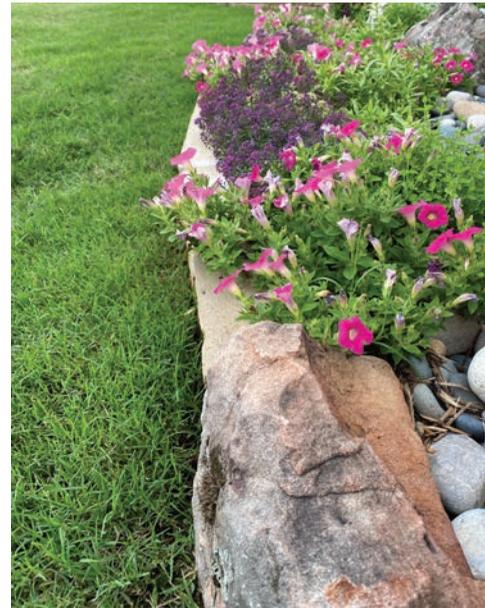
GarlandEWS.com

Your Commercial Services Team

1434 Commerce St., Garland, TX 75040

EWSCommercial@GarlandTX.gov | 972-205-3500

Healthy and Beautiful Lawns with Less Pollution



Do you use fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides in your yard, flowerbed or vegetable garden?

Unfortunately, when chemicals are applied incorrectly they can be harmful to our local waterways. Every time it rains or you improperly water your yard, it can cause runoff. This polluted runoff goes directly to our creeks and lakes through our storm drain system, causing problems for our aquatic friends such as depleting oxygen in the water.

Fertilizers contain nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Improper fertilization can result in excess chemicals in our local waterways. Here are a few ways to help:

- Choose a slow-release product with appropriate proportions of the nutrients you need for your lawn.
- Read directions carefully to apply the proper amount.
- Never apply prior to a rain event as fertilizer can end up in the stormwater runoff, causing water pollution.
- Plant native! Native plants tend to need little to no supplemental nutrients.
- Lawn aeration reduces soil compaction, thereby improving water and fertilizer uptake, making your yard healthier.
- Mow frequently and do not bag the clippings or leave them in the street. **City ordinance does not allow discharging yard waste to the street, alley or storm drain.** Leave the grass clippings on your lawn to provide nutrients, which enables you to use less fertilizer.

Insecticides, herbicides and fungicides are used to treat unwanted insects and plants. However, we do not want these chemicals in our waterways, so please use them wisely and follow these guidelines:

- Identify the problem first and look to non-toxic solutions.
- Limit and carefully apply any chemicals. Read the labels prior to any application.
- Spot treat if possible. Widespread application of pesticides can kill beneficial insects.
- Remove weeds by hand, making sure to remove the root system.
- Utilize proper planting and pruning methods to keep plants healthier.

Storage and disposal of these chemicals must be in a proper manner to help protect our environment. Never store chemicals outside without some type of cover or shelter. Dispose of chemicals by dropping them off at the Dallas County Home Chemical Collection Center. This service is free for all Garland residents. The Garland Recycling Center located on Commerce Street **cannot** accept these type of materials.

Dallas County Home Chemical Collection Center

11234 Plano Road, Dallas
214-553-1765

Hours of Operation:

9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday

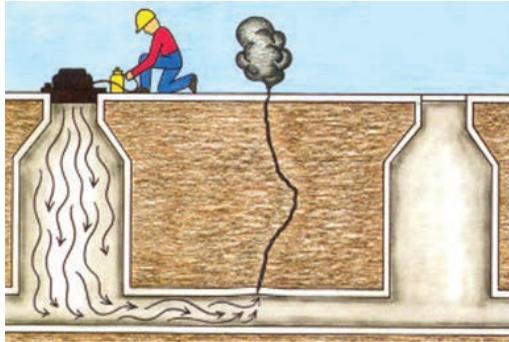


Garland Uses Smoke to Test Sewer Pipes

The Garland Water Utilities Department conducts annual leak-detection tests on the pipes of the City sanitary sewer system during the months of July, August and September.

The smoke testing area for this summer will be from Belt Line Road to Apollo Road and Cheyenne Trail to Buttermilk Way. You can see a map of the area at GarlandWater.com.

The tests are performed by the department's Inflow & Infiltration section by pumping a special non-toxic, non-staining smoke into the sewer lines a section at a time. If there is a crack or break anywhere in the pipeline, the smoke will rise to the surface and the crew can visually see the exact location where repairs are needed.



Water from rain events or even naturally occurring groundwater can seep into pipes that are broken or cracked, which adds to the flow of water going to the wastewater treatment plant. More flow means increased processing costs. Keeping this water out of our pipelines saves money and prevents unnecessary high flows through the equipment at the plant.

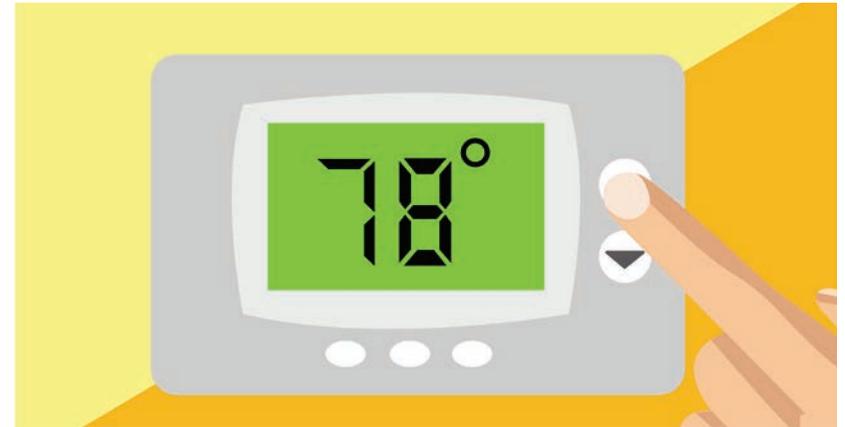
The smoke is created using a mineral oil base that does not cause harm to humans or animals. It won't leave a residue even if it gets into a house. This test may also help a resident discover a plumbing problem in the house. Smoke will come up in weak spots (plumbing issues) even if the P-trap is full.

If a resident has not used drains or P-traps for 10 days or more, the water has probably evaporated. It is recommended that residents run the faucet for about 10 seconds to fill the P-trap so smoke does not come into the house.

When the crews plan to work in your neighborhood, an information tag will be hung on your front door three days before the work is started. Rain or high winds can affect test results, so there are times when testing will be postponed. Residents will be notified if defects are found on private property.

If you have any questions about the City's smoke testing program, call **972-205-3210** or email WaterOps@GarlandTX.gov.

City Services



Tips from GP&L to save energy and money this summer

- Set your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher in the summer. Each degree cooler can increase your energy use by 6% to 8%.
- Clean or replace filters every month. Dirty filters will make your system work harder and run longer than necessary.
- Fans are an energy-efficient way to stay cool. Fans blowing directly on you can make temperatures around you feel up to 4 degrees cooler.
- Leaks around windows and doors let cool air escape. Check for cracked caulking or damaged weather stripping and replace when necessary.

Visit gpltexas.org/energytips for more conservation ideas.



PREVENTING FOOD WASTE

Have you ever bought strawberries only to forget about them, throwing them away once they've gone bad? It's estimated that the same thing happens to 21% of all the food the average adult in the U.S. purchases every year. That's an average of 238 pounds of wasted food per year — \$1,300 spent on food that was purchased and not eaten — per adult!

If you have a fridge overflowing with food, a freezer filled with more than you know what to do with, and a pantry busting at the seams, we have some tips for how to make sure none of that food goes to waste.

1. Dates on packages are a guide, not a rule. "Sell by," "best before," "use by" and "best by" dates are not monitored by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The manufacturer's date is usually intended to indicate food quality, not safety. Instead of relying on the date alone, take notice of the color, consistency, smell or texture of a food to help determine if it is still safe to eat.
2. Do a food inventory before a trip to the store. Knowing what you already have will help you avoid buying too much of any one item.
3. Plan meals and only buy what you need. Avoid impulse purchases. Don't buy an item unless you know you're going to use it.
4. Cook in batches and freeze. If you did buy too much or have some go-to recipes, consider making large batches and freeze for use later. Freezing is also a great way to preserve many fresh foods.
5. Utilize the entire food. Peels, rinds, skins, cores, stalks, tops and leafy greens of many fruits and vegetables are often completely edible and have more beneficial fiber in them than the rest of the fruit/vegetable.
6. Compost, but as a last resort. Try to get all the beneficial nutrients out of your foods before breaking them down in the composting process. Make sure you only compost non-animal organic materials.
7. Don't put food in the recycle cart. Food waste is garbage and if placed in the recycle cart, it can contaminate the entire recycling load, making it trash as well.

For more information on food waste prevention, check out the FDA's Food Loss and Waste page at fda.gov/food/consumers/food-loss-and-waste.



Garland Library Launches **Virtual Summer Reading Program**

Readers of all ages will be glad to know the Garland Library's Summer Reading Program is still taking place this summer in a modified, virtual format.

Though the format has been altered by the COVID-19 pandemic, programs are available for all age groups including babies, kids, teens and adults.

This year's Summer Reading Program theme is **Imagine Your Story**. The reading challenge started June 28 and lasts until July 31.

Babies who are registered, children and teens will be challenged to read 20 hours total. For every five hours they read, they will earn a badge in Beanstack, the Library's reading challenge software, as well as an entry into a prize drawing. All babies, children and teens will receive a prize pack, while supplies last, when they turn in their final reading log.

Adults can also participate in the reading challenge. For every five hours adults read, they will earn a badge in Beanstack and an entry into a prize drawing.

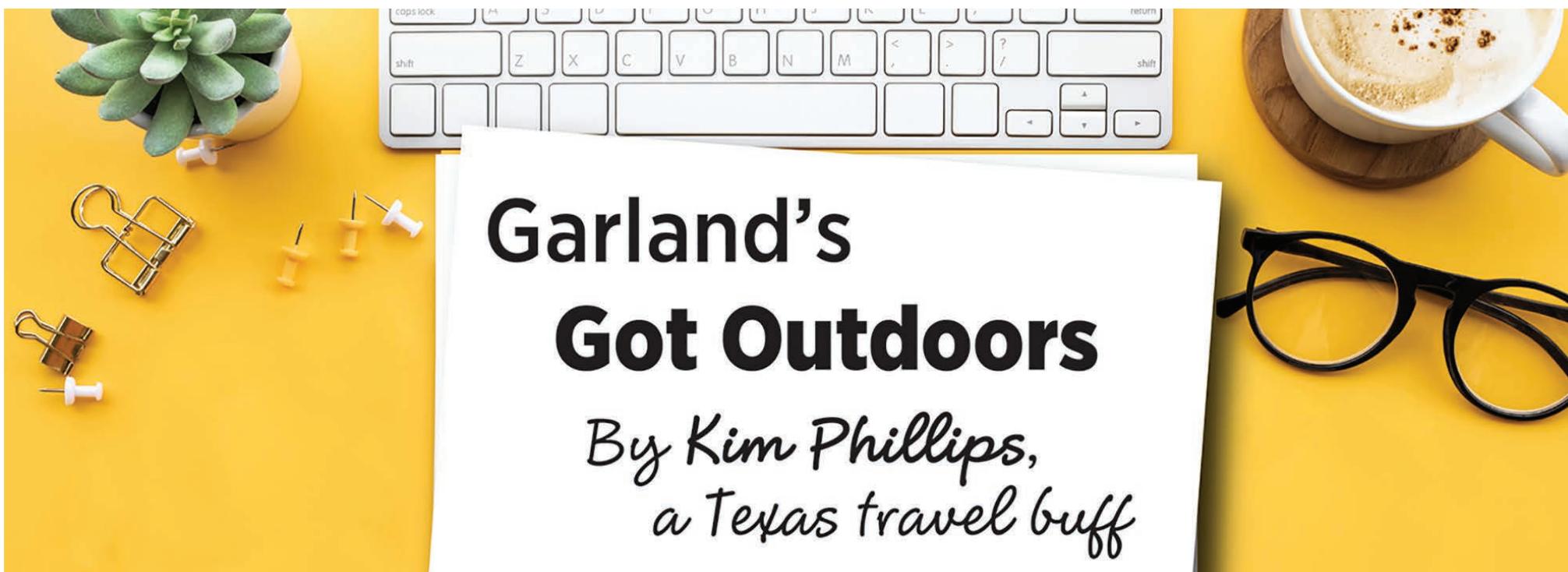
This year's grand prizes are Chromebooks for children, teens and adults. All grand prize drawings will be held in late August.

All special events in the Summer Reading Program take place online. These events include storytimes, special performers for all ages, STEAM activities (incorporating science, technology, engineering, the arts and math) for youth and crafts for children and adults.

For the most up-to-date event schedule, information on what library services are currently available, downloadable materials and online resources, go to Library.GarlandTX.gov or follow the library on Facebook at Facebook.com/GarlandLibraryTX.



Read the latest on our **VisitGarlandTX** blog.
VisitGarlandTX.com



Quality of Life



Audubon Recreation Center *is getting a new look!*

The doors are closed at Audubon Recreation Center, 342 W. Oates Road, as the City embarks on a \$6.1 million upgrade. In addition to a 5,000-square-foot expansion, the existing building will be fully renovated. South Garland residents will enjoy a new fitness area, improvements to multipurpose rooms, restrooms, storage, lobby and control desk, site improvements, exterior patio, and a canopy at the entrance.

As part of the renovation, Audubon will offer a Body Shop with more than 2,000 square feet of workout space and all the latest fitness equipment. Audubon's will be the largest of the Garland recreation center Body Shops and will include three zones — cardio, stationary weights and a functional fitness area.

Audubon Recreation Center Supervisor Jesse Johnson said there have been many inquiries about a fitness center at the location. The functional fitness area will allow users to do multiple exercises on one piece of equipment. "The new functional fitness area will allow for new opportunities to offer group exercise classes and personal training," Johnson said.

The project underlines the City's commitment to focus on Audubon Park as a great place to gather. The recreation center project comes on the heels of installing new parking and hosting two of the City's largest events of 2020 at Audubon — *The Wall That Heals* traveling Vietnam War memorial and our very first Big Art Day with Garland Independent School District.

Garland Cultural Arts Commission, Inc. **2020-21 Grant Program**

The Garland Cultural Arts Commission is pleased to announce its 2020-21 Grant Program for local arts groups, historic preservation organizations and other artistic entities.

Applications may be picked up beginning Monday, Aug. 3, at the Granville Arts Center Box Office, 300 N. Fifth St. in Downtown Garland. Applications will be available between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday until Thursday, Sept. 17.

Completed applications are due to the Granville Arts Center by 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18. Grant money will not be awarded to any group that does not submit the completed application by the deadline. Follow-up interviews will take place Thursday, Sept. 24, at the Granville Arts Center.

For more information, call 972-205-2780.



Tune in for a true Garland experience, as we bring streaming performances straight to you. For more information, visit the **Made Fresh & Local** event page on GarlandParks.com.

Engage with the event and comment live during the performance on our Facebook pages, [@PlayGarland](https://www.facebook.com/PlayGarland), [@GarlandTXgov](https://www.facebook.com/GarlandTXgov), and [@VisitGarlandTX](https://www.facebook.com/VisitGarlandTX). Comment using the tags [#OnlyinGarland](https://www.facebook.com/OnlyinGarland) and [#MYMGarland](https://www.facebook.com/MYMGarland).

Quality of Life

FREE SUMMER MEALS

Comida Gratis Durante El Verano

FOR KIDS & TEENS
PARA NIÑOS MENORES DE 18 AÑOS

Through Aug. 7
Monday - Friday
Hasta el 7 de agosto
lunes - viernes

LOCATIONS:

Lunch times at all locations 11 a.m to 1 p.m.

PICKUP ONLY *SOLO PARA RECOGER*

Bradfield Recreation Center, 1146 Castle Drive

Fields Recreation Center, 1701 Dairy Road

Granger Recreation Center, 1310 W. Avenue F

Hollabaugh Recreation Center, 3925 W. Walnut St.

Surf & Swim, 440 W. Oates Road



Swim Lessons

Available at Two Sites



Garland's 2020 recreational aquatics offerings have been altered by the COVID-19 pandemic, but summer swim lessons, a popular and important service, are available.

Swim lesson sessions have started at Holford Pool, 2322 Holford Place. They begin July 6 at Wynne Pool, 3858 S. Glenbrook Drive.

Additional sessions are tentatively scheduled to begin July 20 and Aug. 3. Courses are two-week sessions for three days each week, Monday through Wednesday or Thursday through Saturday. Class size is limited. Registration fee is \$45 per course.

Visit SwimGarland.com or call 972-205-2757.



Have a question about Garland's history?

Visit our website for a wealth of information, including a historical timeline, maps, photos and more. If you are interested in further researching a topic or have relevant information to offer, please contact us at Heritage@GarlandTX.gov.

GarlandHistorical.org



Need to report a pothole, broken streetlight or tall grass? There's an app for that!

With the Garland eAssist app, you can:

- Submit more than 50 types of service requests
- Access news and information
- See other nearby requests in progress

Garland eAssist provides an online platform accessible from the City's website, GarlandTX.gov, and from a free app available in the Google Play and Apple app stores.



COVID-19 hit us all, but especially the hospitality and tourism industries. **Visit Garland** wanted to unveil the person behind the menu who was directly impacted by this pandemic. We all know restaurants were closed, then could serve to-go, then 25% capacity and so on. But do you know the person who has sacrificed so much to invest in Garland and serve you on a daily basis?

Behind the Menu provides them the chance to tell their story, sharing what it means to be a small business here in Garland. So we ask our community to join together to support not just the small businesses but the person, family, chef, who needs us now more than ever! Go to **#BehindtheMenu** to see how they all **Make Their Mark** here in Garland.

Support your local Garland businesses! Order from one of these locations today! #BehindtheMenu



Art-Inspired **Collections from the Field Debuts**

Collections from the Field is a new community-based art project that shares the beauty and inspiration of Garland's Spring Creek Forest Preserve, 1770 Holford Road.

Launched in June, the project is open to all ages. To participate, simply visit the Preserve, explore its trails and forest, find inspiration in nature and create art. Any medium is welcome, including photography, painting, creative writing, nature journaling and art created with pieces of the landscape – such as rocks, sticks and fallen leaves.

Once the art is created, it can be shared by using the hashtag **#collectionsfromthefield** on a social media post. Or it can be submitted via email to the project team at collectionsfromthefield@gmail.com. The art can be viewed on the project's Facebook page and its website, collectionsfromthefield.com.

The project was initiated by Stephanie Hanson, a college senior who came to know of the Preserve while being raised in Garland. An environmental studies major, she created the community-based project as a unique means of interacting with the landscape.

Partner organizations include the City of Garland and the Preservation Society for Spring Creek Forest – a nonprofit whose mission is to protect the cultural and ecological resources of the Preserve.

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City of Garland
P. O. Box 469002
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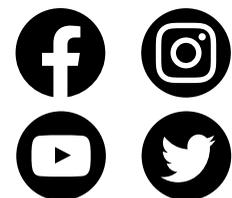
Garland eAssist

Report issues, get information and submit questions online or through an app on your smartphone. Visit GarlandTX.gov and click on the eAssist button or download Garland eAssist from your app store.



Garland City Press Briefs

This weekly newsletter is sent each Sunday evening and contains reminders and updates about City-sponsored events and activities. Register on the City's website. Look for the Enews link.



Social Media

The City is active on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Nextdoor. Check these out by visiting GarlandTX.gov and see what interests you most!

GarlandTX.gov

SPOTLIGHT ON GARLAND



Staycation in Garland

The personal finance website WalletHub ranked Garland 19th of 182 cities nationally and fourth in Texas among places to spend a summer staycation. The study grouped 15 metrics including parks per capita, walking trails per capita, miles of bicycle lanes, average prices of food items and the quality of summer weather. Thanks to voters' commitment of \$117 million to enhance parks and recreation in the 2019 bond election, Garland is positioned to move up the list in future years.

A few Garland staycation destinations where safe social distancing can be practiced:

Audubon Park Disc Golf Course
342 W. Oates Road

Public Art Walking Tour
506 Main St.

Firewheel Golf Park
600 W. Campbell Road
and 1535 E. Brand Road

Rowlett Creek Preserve
2525 Castle Drive

**Lake Ray Hubbard
via John Paul Jones Park**
4099 Zion Road

Spring Creek Forest Preserve
1770 Holford Road

Spring Creek Greenbelt
6006 N. Shiloh Road

STAY INFORMED



Recovery and assistance resources and other updated COVID-19 information is available at GarlandTX.gov/COVID-19

Thank you for your help in stopping the spread of COVID-19.



Garland City Press is produced and funded by the City of Garland and contains information about the City, as well as details on City-sponsored events. Send comments or questions to: Dorothy White, Public & Media Relations, City of Garland, P.O. Box 469002, Garland, TX 75046-9002.