

CITY PRESS

Future home of
Fire Station #6
BUILD GARLAND
Learn more at BuildGarland.com
GARLAND



RAPID RESPONSE

2019 BOND DELIVERING THREE NEW FIRE STATIONS



Pictured: Rendering of skate park at Rick Oden Park



BOND UPDATE

Garland's Future Is Taking Shape

On the cover: Fire Chief Mark Lee, center, and Assistant Fire Chief Carl Coan, right, stand at the site for the relocation of Fire Station No. 6. Also pictured are Station No. 6 firefighter/engineer Matthew Brawner, far left, and firefighter/paramedic Dan Turner.

Fire Stations

The City of Garland is excited to announce the future home of the new Fire Station No. 6! The station will be located on State Highway 190 near the intersection of Campbell Road.

The station is the first of three stations that will be replaced as part of the 2019 bond program. The new facilities will include modern equipment, additional bunk rooms, and allow for improved firefighter health and safety – as well as improved response times.

“The Garland community has shown outstanding support for the public safety professionals who work here,” Fire Chief Mark Lee said. “Part of that support is reflected in the approval of the 2019 bond program, which includes the replacement of three aging fire stations.

“In the last few decades, fire stations have evolved. The fire houses of today add additional protections for the firefighters. If we protect our firefighters, they can continue to protect the community at the highest levels.”

The design of Fire Station No. 6 will begin in the fall. Construction is anticipated to happen in 2022.

Streets and Transportation

The City of Garland is using \$126 million from the bond program to finance improvements to multiple streets. Portions of Naaman School Road, Holford Road, Lyons Road, Leon Road and Shiloh Road, as well as various intersections throughout the city, are all scheduled for considerable improvements. These will help alleviate congestion and provide better daily traffic flow.

The first roadway projects are in the design phase. Garland residents will begin to see progress in 2021, which may temporarily cause minor traffic flow interruptions.

Rick Oden Park Redevelopment

In an effort to enhance quality greenspace, the City of Garland will redevelop Rick Oden Park. The redevelopment will allow for new structures and create an enhanced scenic environment for Garland residents. Rick Oden Park will boast a new championship baseball field and skate park. Other features will include a revitalized greenspace, new playgrounds, new restrooms, pedestrian bridges, trails and drinking fountains. This redevelopment is currently in the design phase. Phase 1 of construction is anticipated to start in late 2020.

For more information on all projects from the 2019 bond election, visit BuildGarland.com.



1. Apply today at Careers.GarlandTX.gov.



2. Click “VIEW OUR CURRENT JOB LISTING HERE.”



3. Select the job of interest.



4. Click “Apply for the job online.”

For existing applicants: Enter your email and password.

For new applicants: Enter your email and follow prompts to create online profile.

Questions?

Connect with the Talent Acquisition team at Talent@GarlandTX.gov or 972-205-2475.

Thank you for your interest in the City of Garland.

We Are Social!



Council Provides Homeowner And Senior Property Tax Relief

Homeowners in Garland will benefit from additional exemptions on their property taxes beginning in the 2020 tax year.

The Garland City Council approved two exemption increases June 16. The homestead exemption on property will be a 10% exemption in 2020, compared to 8% in previous years.

Residents age 65 years or older or who are disabled now have an additional \$5,000 in appraised value exempted from taxation. That total exemption will be \$56,000 for 2020, compared to \$51,000 in previous years.

It adds up to a \$70 annual tax savings for a resident who qualifies for both the new homeowner and the new senior or disabled exemption. That savings is based on a \$200,000 home, about the average value of a single-family residence in Garland.



The City of Garland has upped the incentive for homeowners to fix deteriorating sidewalks.

Garland offers three new reductions to supplement its established 50-50 share of sidewalk reconstruction costs. A property owner who qualifies in all three categories may now bear as little as 10% of the cost of fixing their sidewalk.

In addition to the 50% match, the following reductions in cost may now apply:

- An extra 15% if the property has a homestead exemption through county records
- An extra 15% if the address is in a Community Development Block Grant area as marked by Department of Housing and Urban Development
- An extra 10% if the property owner is disabled according to Social Security Administration records or is age 65 or older

If you have questions about the matching grant program, call **972-205-2930**. City staff will then determine what work is eligible and the estimated cost.

It is the property owner's responsibility, per City ordinance, to keep sidewalks on their property in safe condition. Unsafe conditions include more than 2 inches of elevation difference between adjacent sections of sidewalks, cracks of 2 inches or more, and sunken portions that create excessive ponding of water. Property owners are generally not responsible for sidewalks along streets of four or more lanes.

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CENTRAL PARK

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GarlandTX.gov

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 **Quality of Life**

Recreation Center Events

Library Virtual Programs, Online Resources and Downloadable Items

Made Fresh & Local

*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

 City of Garland, Texas Government
#MYMGarland #GarlandTX

NOV. 3 Elections

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City postponed its general election to Nov. 3 as allowed by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott. That's the same election in which federal, state, county and school district items will be considered.

Candidates in the City election are (U indicates unopposed):

District 1	David Gibbons (U)
District 2	Deborah Morris Koni Ramos-Kaiwi
District 4	B.J. Williams Jim Bookhout
District 5	Rich Aubin (U)

Also on the ballot is a proposal to utilize park land adjacent to Hollabaugh Recreation Center, 3925 W. Walnut St., as the site for relocation of the Walnut Creek Branch Library. By law, residents must approve any plan to use park land for purposes other than a park (see page 6).

Voters citywide will decide the park proposal. Per the Charter, City Council members are elected by residents of their districts.

Gov. Abbott has extended the early voting period so that it will start Tuesday, Oct. 13, and run through Friday, Oct. 30. Monday, Oct. 5 is the last day to register to vote Nov. 3.

The governor also suspended a section of the Texas Election Code to allow voters to deliver a marked ballot in person to the early voting clerk's office, 1520 Round Table Drive in Dallas, prior to and on Election Day. Go to DallasCountyVotes.org to obtain a ballot by mail.

Voters who are 65 or older, disabled voters, those who expect to be absent from the county and those who are confined in jail can return their vote by mail.

Early voting locations in Garland will include the Richland College Garland Campus, 675 W. Walnut St., and the South Garland Branch Library, 4845 Broadway Blvd. However, a Garland resident may vote anywhere in Dallas County. Proper identification is required.

Questions?

If you have questions regarding early voting, contact Dallas County Early Voting at 214-819-6359. If you have other election issues, contact the City Secretary at 972-205-2404 or Dallas County at 214-819-6300 or Dallascountyvotes.org.

District 2 Town Hall

● 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5

A virtual "State of the District" meeting hosted by Council Member Deborah Morris

To register: Go to garlandtx.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Mawd-hvkQk-m_IdeRHLcUw. You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the online meeting.

For those without internet: Dial in at 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099. The meeting ID is 925 5210 3924.

CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE

City Council Work Sessions

- Live broadcast – 6 p.m. Sept. 14, Oct. 12 and 19
- 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. Sept. 1 and 15, Oct. 13 and 20
- 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. Sept. 14 and 28, Oct. 12 and 26
- Sept. 28 and Oct. 26 meetings will be rebroadcast the following Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 9 a.m.

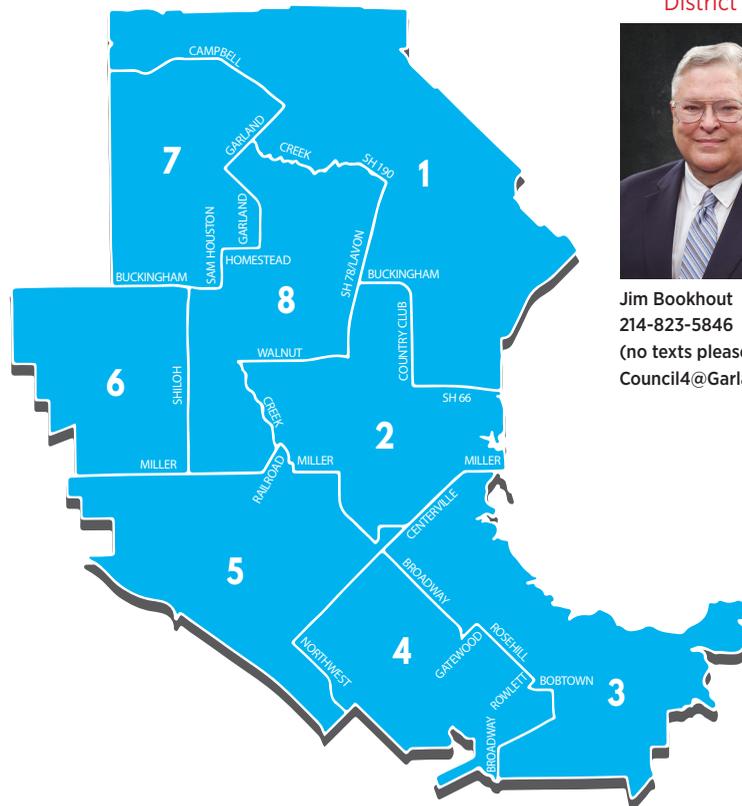
CGTV Listings

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.



2020-21 BUDGET

The time is now for public input on the City of Garland's budget for fiscal year 2020-21.

The City Manager has set goals for the budget in a financially challenging environment and submitted a proposed budget to the City Council. Those goals include maintaining current service levels, providing resources to keep the 2019 bond program on schedule, addressing the need for 911 dispatchers and maintaining a high level of reserve funds for future needs.

Copies of the budget are available at GarlandTX.gov/Budget, at all Garland libraries and at City Hall.

Council will continue to discuss the budget in its Aug. 31 and Sept. 14 Work Sessions. The Council will take public comments at its Regular Meetings 7 p.m. Sept. 1 and 7 p.m. Sept. 15. Council is scheduled to adopt the budget Sept. 15.

Visit GarlandTX.gov for more information, including meeting agendas and possible updates to the budget meeting schedule. The fiscal year starts Oct. 1.

SPOTLIGHT ON GARLAND

Garland is well-positioned for what may be a major part of the "new normal" in American life. The city was rated No. 2 in Texas and No. 11 in the nation on the list of Best U.S. Cities to Work from Home.

Grow + Acorns, CNBC's online reporting for investing and money management, compiled the list by looking at rental data and internet affordability in apartments in 113 of America's largest cities. In Garland, the research showed 93% of residents have access to broadband for \$60 or less. There are 461 square feet of living and working area per person in Garland, which at 1.9 people per apartment, averages \$575 in rent per space per person.

Lubbock was the only Texas city to fare better than Garland in the comparison. Arlington also finished in the top 15.

The coronavirus pandemic has forced many people to work from home indefinitely — in mid-May, 68% of Americans were still working from home in order to avoid the virus. For some, that arrangement may become permanent.



For the seventh consecutive year, the Garland Fire Department was recognized by the American Heart Association with the Mission Lifeline: Gold Award. The award is for having systems in place to quickly identify heart attack patients, getting those patients to the right hospital and doing it in an amount of time that increases chances of survival.

Garland ranked third in Texas and 12th in the nation on a recent list of the top cities for purchasing an affordable family home. The report was published by personal finance website SmartAsset. It studied factors including percentage of homes with at least two bedrooms, homeownership rate, down payment to income ratio, housing costs as a share of income and high school graduation rates.

According to the PropertyShark real estate website, you can buy 2,218 square feet of living space for \$250,000 in Garland.

City News

Garland Welcomes Code Compliance Director



Following more than 20 years of service with the City, Rick Barker was recently named Code Compliance director. His previous City duties include Animal Services manager and, most recently, Code Compliance administrator.

Rick has a Master of Administrative Studies and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

The deadline to participate in Census 2020 is mandated in the Constitution. Unlike a driver's license, vehicle registration or even taxes, there's no getting an extension. Even in a pandemic.

It's also a civic duty to be among the count of people living in the United States. If you haven't filled out a census form, you should do it now. Do it for our representation in Congress, city growth and prosperity, school funding and medical services.

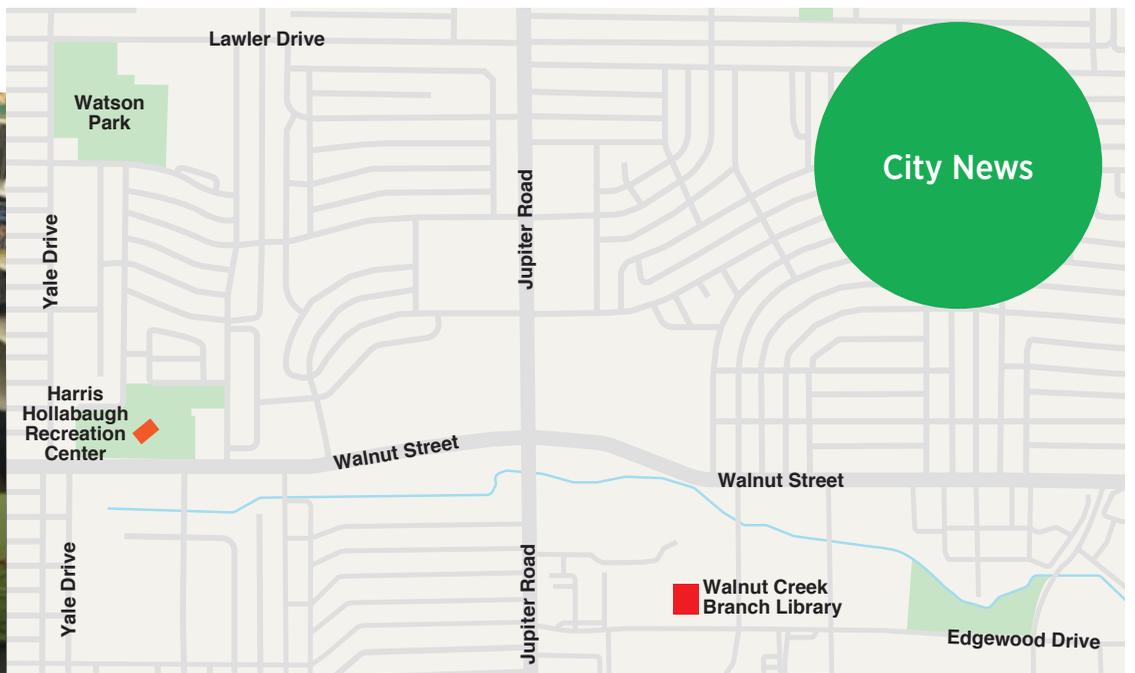
The good news is that it's easy to participate. Only nine questions to complete and you're counted! You can fill out a census form by mail, phone, online at 2020census.gov or in person. There are more enumerators in the field than ever before, reaching out personally at addresses where a response has not yet been provided.

Census enumerators will have proper identification and personal protective equipment. They are trained for the safest possible interaction at this time. Field collection ends Wednesday, Sept. 30, so that the complete count can be delivered by the end of the year, as required by law.

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States
Census
2020

NOTE: Before the pandemic, shoulder-to-shoulder seating was common at overcrowded Walnut Creek Branch Library



After approving a \$10.9 million relocation and expansion of the Walnut Creek Branch Library, **voters on Nov. 3 will decide whether that library will be built at Hollabaugh Park.**

A key element in the City's May 2019 bond election, a new Walnut Creek Branch addresses a glaring need in West Garland.

"I am so excited about this opportunity to be able to provide our patrons a new and larger facility that will allow us to better serve the Garland community," said Karen Archibald, Garland's Director of Library Services.

Neighborhood use has far surpassed the capacity of the 8,000-square-foot branch at 3319 Edgewood Drive. Walnut Creek's 61,000 annual visitors compete for nine computers. Its program room can hold only 30 people and there are no study rooms.

The need for a technological makeover may be an even worse problem than cramped space. Study rooms at the new Walnut Creek Branch will be outfitted with video conferencing capabilities. There will be more computers and scanning and maker-space capabilities.

In addition to a larger program room, the plan also calls for designated teen space that the current facility doesn't offer. A larger capacity to develop new and expanded library collections — an extra 10,000 volumes — will be a benefit, especially to children.

After deciding a new library was needed through the bond program, voters on Nov. 3 will get a say on a proposed site.

The City looked for property that would accommodate a 16,000-square-foot building and parking — ideally with access to a major street and within a mile of the existing library. However, those conditions for relocation proved difficult in built-out West Garland.

The City's Hollabaugh Recreation Center, 3925 W. Walnut St., has adjacent land that is highly visible and large enough for the library and its parking. And it's practically around the corner from the Walnut Creek Branch that has served the community since 1975.

Since the site is part of Hollabaugh Park, voters must approve any non-park use of a park. It's been decided that west Garland will get its new library. This is a question of "where."

The Parks Board, Library Board and the City Council all voted to put the item on the ballot. Plans for the area also call for greater uses of Watson Park, which is within a half mile of the Hollabaugh site. A futsal court, splash pad and playground replacement are scheduled at Watson.



Cherishing an Old-Growth Forest

On the edge of bustling north Garland lies a pristine bottomland with old-growth forests and beautiful limestone prairies.

Spring Creek Forest Preserve features centuries-old trees, many more than 100 feet high. More than 650 species of plants and animals have been observed there — not counting dragonflies, spiders, mites, beetles and ants.

The park features paved multipurpose trails and natural surface walking trails for public access. It has parking access at 1787 Holford Road, 1770 Holford Road, and a trailhead at the end of Ranger Drive.

Because it was among the few areas untouched by early settlers, Spring Creek Forest Preserve is unique among Dallas County. Garland officials worked with the county and state to create the Spring Creek Forest Preserve in the early 1980s.

The City and county also solicited community support. The Preservation Society for Spring Creek Forest was formed by a group of volunteer naturalists, in cooperation with the City, to work alongside the Parks and Recreation Department to maintain and promote the space.

The Preservation Society educates those who want to learn more about the forest and its rare treasures. It connects scout troops to projects, offers volunteer activities to students and helps members of naturalist groups log required hours.

Through the partnership, Texas Master Naturalist volunteers have donated services worth \$38,000 since 2016. Volunteers are a mix of Texas Master Naturalists, area residents, scouts and scout leaders, and occasionally high school students.

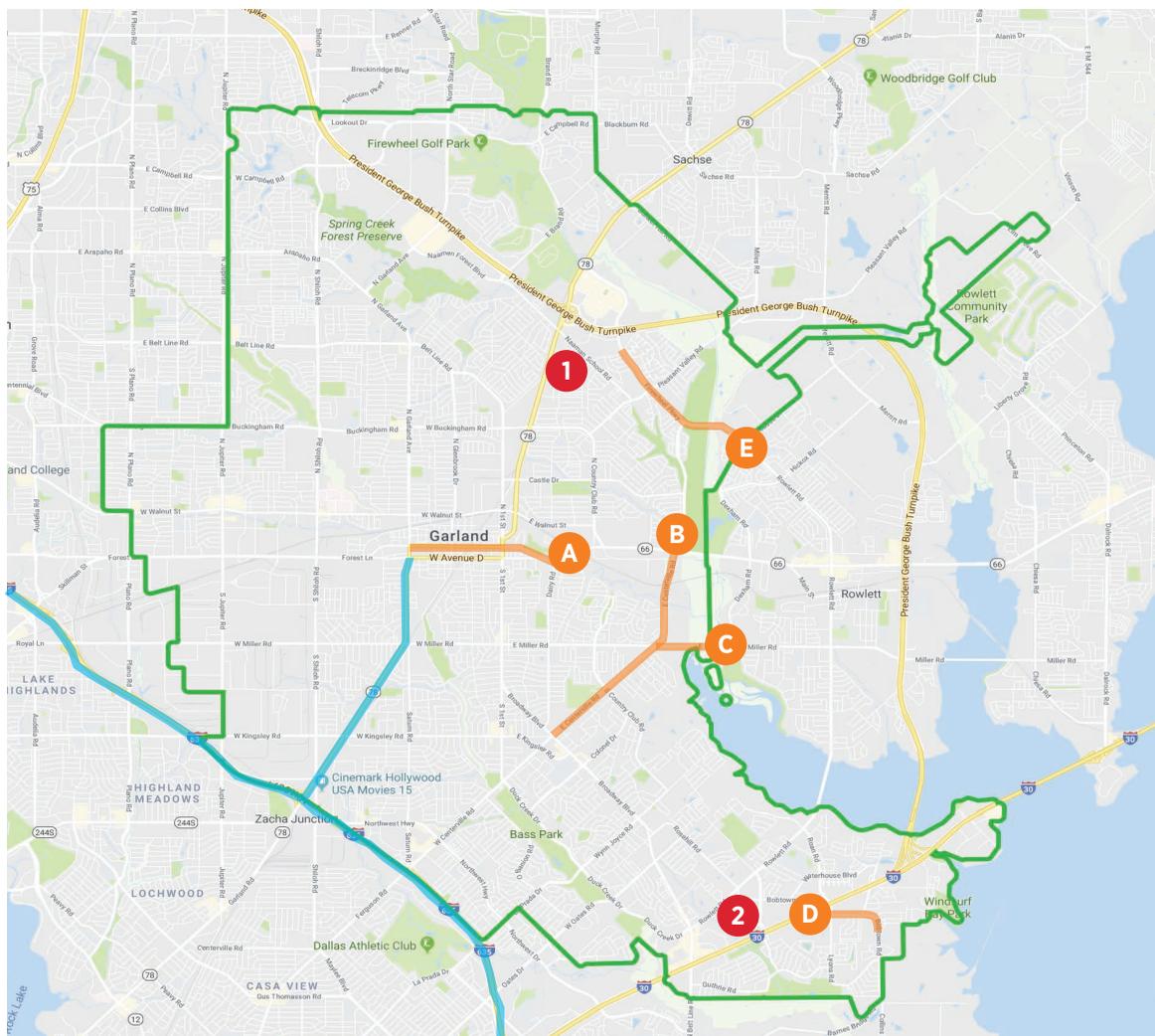
In addition, the Preservation Society hosts monthly educational events, Saturday workdays and guided nature walks. Visit SpringCreekForest.org for more details, or to join the Society. All educational and volunteer activities are open to the public.

Another ongoing effort to celebrate the beauty, history and ecology of Spring Creek Forest Preserve is "Collections from the Field." The volunteer-led project collects and displays a variety of art submissions, from painting to poetry to photography to collaging, related in some way to the Preserve. To submit photographic or written artwork, post it on Facebook or Instagram with the tag [#collectionsfromthefield](https://www.instagram.com/collectionsfromthefield). Visit CollectionsFromTheField.com or its pages on Facebook and Instagram.

WHAT'S BEING BUILT THERE?

Garland is buzzing with new development.

- 1 Braum's, 2802 Lavon Drive, is in the process of remodeling. Plans include exterior improvements, an approximately 580-square-foot building addition, more parking and renovation to the existing interior. The store remains open during construction.
- 2 Progress continues along Rosehill Road for redevelopment efforts. Power lines have been buried along the east side of Rosehill in order to allow for enhanced pedestrian-friendly streetscaping. Power lines will be buried along the west side of Rosehill as well. The "Parks at Rosehill" construction continues for a 127-lot single-family development; entry monument signs have been installed along Rosehill and Interstate 30.



Taking It to the Streets

Projects scheduled to begin in September/October

- A Avenue D**, Garland Avenue to Dairy Road
Concrete street repair
- Burdock Drive/Elderberry Drive alley**, Burdock to Zion Road
Alley reconstruction
- B Centerville Road**, Broadway Boulevard to State Highway 66
Concrete street repair
- Cranford Drive**, Denton Drive to Saturn Road
Street reconstruction
- Curtis Drive**, Davidson Drive to Susan Drive
Street reconstruction
- C Miller Road**, Centerville Road to east city limit
Concrete street repair

Ongoing projects

- D Bobtown Road**, Lyons Road to High Drive
Concrete street repair
- Elderberry Drive/Lemon Tree Lane alley**, Elderberry to Zion Road
Alley reconstruction
- E Firewheel Parkway**, Castle Road to Mars Drive
Concrete street repair
- Mayflower Drive alley**, Apache Drive to Wynn Joyce Road
Alley reconstruction
- Toler Trail**, Country Club Road to Luther Lane
Street reconstruction

Texas Department of Transportation Projects
Details on page 10.

CENTRAL PARK

HISTORY

Central Park is the foundation of Garland's parks and recreation system. The property has been used for recreation for about a century.

Dams placed across Duck Creek starting in 1926 impounded the water for swimming in what became known as Lake Garland. A swimming hole, bathhouse, and picnic and playground areas were components of Williams Park, a privately owned and operated park at the site.

When the private landowners removed the dam and closed the park, public access for picnics was preserved and the property was leased for a miniature golf course.

Following World War II, the Garland Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees) led efforts to provide a public park for the city. On Jan. 10, 1948, the City of Garland bought 50 acres that would become Central Park. It was the City's first purchase of land for recreational space.

In 2013, Central Park was recognized as a Lone Star Legacy Park. "These parks have endured the test of time and have become iconic to those who have visited, played and rested on their grounds," according to the Texas Parks and Recreation Society. "A designation as a Lone Star Legacy is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed on a park."



Today, there's a recommitment to Central Park for Garland's current residents and future generations. In addition to the dog park and playground opened this summer, ballfield lighting and restrooms are also new. Some \$3.5 million in improvements to Granger Recreation Center were celebrated in a December 2019 ribbon cutting. Currently in motion at Central Park are plans for new parking, renovation of Granger Annex and a trail along Duck Creek.

A NEW LOOK

A new dog park and inclusive playground continue a transformation at Central Park.

With the opening of the dog park and playground in July, both the first of their kind in Garland, the City's oldest park is becoming its most modern.

"Our Parks & Recreation slogan is 'Get Out & Play,' "Mayor Scott LeMay said. "We encourage all citizens of Garland to do just that."

Amenities at the Garland Dog Park include three fenced paddocks, drinking fountains, shade, lighting, seating, fencing and parking. The park is open daily from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., closing only for routine maintenance and after rain events or other wet conditions.

"Our new dog park at Central Park is large and lovely, a greenspace our residents and their fur-children can enjoy for many decades to come," District 2 City Council Member Deborah Morris said.

Each of the three dog paddocks has a 6-foot fence and double entry gates for safe entrance. One paddock is used for large dogs (35 pounds and greater); another is for small dogs (less than 35 pounds). The third paddock turf rests while the other two are active.

Other amenities include magnetic locks on gates for security and a new restroom building on the north side of the park.

The new, inclusive and sensory-friendly playground is now open in close proximity to Granger Recreation Center. The new playground is designed for children of all abilities to play, learn and grow together and to support park patrons with a variety of physical, sensory and cognitive needs.

Council Member Morris said the project is not only unique, it fills a void as Central Park had been without a playground since 2012.

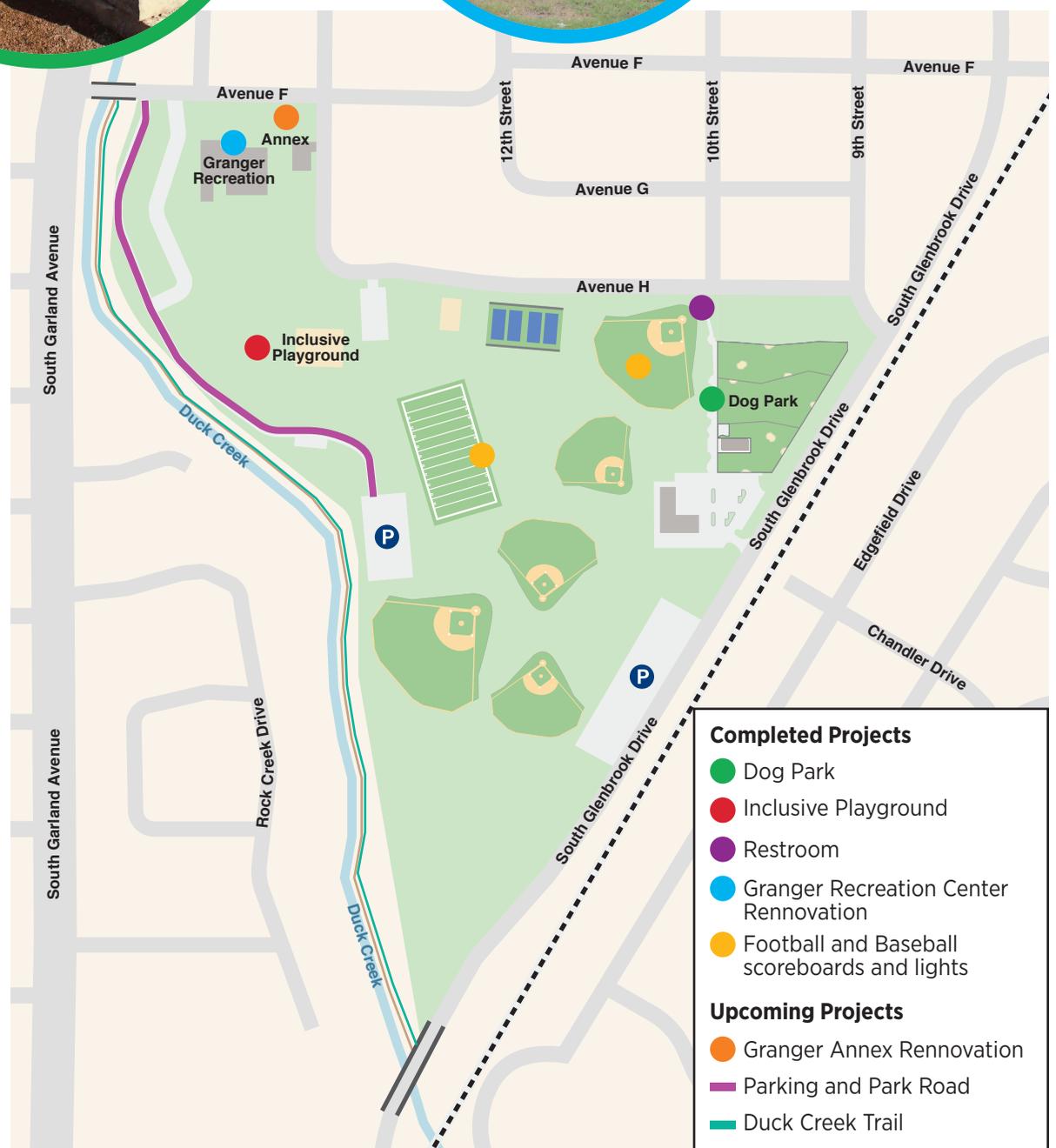


The 6,500-square-foot playground includes playable lawn space contained within a 4-foot gated fence as well as ample shade provided by a combination of mature trees and shade structures. Poured-in-place rubberized safety surface allows full mobility. Plentiful seating is provided with long, integrated seat walls and picnic pads.

A drinking fountain is conveniently located within the fenced area, and the playground is near the park's restroom building. In addition, site lighting is provided around the perimeter of the playground, and parking with ADA accessibility is available.

"This new playground makes play more accessible to all," LeMay said. "I'm very proud of this addition to our parks system and I'm looking forward to all the playground equipment updates we have planned around the city."

Some two dozen playground structures are being updated within the next couple years as part of Garland's 2019 bond program.



Neighborhoods
& Development

Work Continues on 635 East

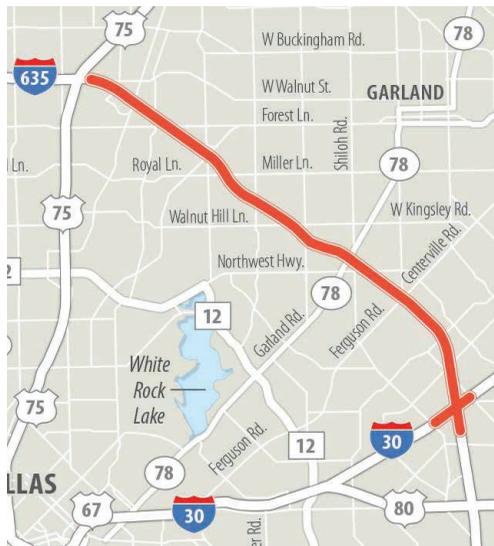
Utility relocations and bridge foundation work will kick off the \$1.7 billion 635 East project in September and October.

The project includes 11 miles along Interstate 635, Garland's busiest traffic corridor, and the interchange at Interstate 30. Much of the drilled shafts for bridge foundations at the interchange were completed in June and July.

Dirt work is also evident in many areas. This includes grading, embankment and excavation. Installation of box culverts for drainage construction for the new highway and wall construction are also in the works.

Visit 635east.com for information about the project. Visit GarlandTX.gov/Garland635info for information about the construction staging area in Garland.

Texas Department of Transportation Projects



Intersection Work Begins on South Garland Avenue

The Texas Department of Transportation has started a \$4.6 million project to improve intersections along South Garland Avenue.

Improvements will include the addition of turning lanes, raised medians, and bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. Decreased emissions will also result as traffic flow improves.

Intersections from Forest Lane to Interstate 635 are targeted. TxDOT is in charge of the project as South Garland Avenue is part of State Highway 78. TxDOT estimates completion in September 2021.

The first work started in July at the intersection of Garland Avenue and Miller Road, where traffic lights will be coordinated with Saturn Road and the KCS rail line.

Neighborhood Management Academy Classes



HOW TO HOST A NEIGHBORHOOD ZOOM GATHERING

● 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10

Are you itching to get together with your neighbors virtually, but don't know how? Join this virtual class to learn the basics of hosting a virtual neighborhood meeting/gathering using Zoom.

WELCOME TO GARLAND CLASS

● 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16

Whether you're new to Garland or have lived here for decades, this class is a great way to get better acquainted with what makes this a great place to live, work and play! You'll learn about the various City services, how your taxpayer dollars are used and more!

FALL HOME MAINTENANCE TIPS FROM WATER UTILITIES

● 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24

Join us for this virtual class to learn which type of home maintenance tips can help you be more water efficient.

All classes will be presented in a virtual format and are subject to change. To register and learn more, visit GarlandNeighborhoods.org.



Where the Heart Is: Ablon Park

Local artist Cullin Lassiter completed an aquatic-themed mural on the ceiling of the Ablon Park pavilion. This mural is one of the community projects from Where the Heart Is, a targeted neighborhood enhancement program. The program's 2020 focus is The Oaks neighborhood in southeast Garland.

Learn more at GarlandNeighborhoods.org.



National Community Planning Month

October is designated as National Community Planning Month. It's a time for local government to focus on the important role planning plays in addressing and adapting to challenges faced by modern communities.

Think about access to transportation or new approaches to creating communities of lasting value. When you look around, it becomes evident how community planning has touched your life.

The creation of walkable communities, the establishment of recreational amenities such as dog parks and hike and bike trails, and the formation of mixed-use developments all derive from planning efforts.

Parklets, which extend outdoor seating capacities for restaurants, are a recent planning initiative to address issues pertaining to COVID-19.

Part of community planning is identifying projects that provide a specific need but can also improve the larger community. An example would be to build or repair sidewalks near transit centers to help make better connections to and from the broader transit network.



Visit the Planning and Community Development webpage at GarlandTX.gov or explore the list of Great Places in America by visiting the National American Planning Association at planning.org.



Neighborhood Vitality MATCHING GRANT

Attention all neighborhood groups! Wednesday, Sept. 23, is the deadline to apply for a Neighborhood Vitality Matching Grant.

The matching grant is available to registered neighborhood groups completing community-wide physical enhancement projects on public or publicly accessible property. Download the program guidelines and applications at GarlandNeighborhoods.org.

2020 Neighborhood Summit

Neighborhood Values, Home Values

What a wild year this has been! Now, more than ever, it is important to invest in your home and neighborhood both socially and aesthetically. Register now to join Neighborhood Values, Home Values, our first virtual conference. This FREE conference will be 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7.

Learn how you can love where you live, today! Topics will include establishing your neighborhood values, building a neighborhood network, how to preserve or increase your home value, and do-it-yourself home improvement tips from experts.

Learn more and register at GarlandNeighborhoods.org.

NATIONAL GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY AND NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



National Good Neighbor Day is Monday, Sept. 28! Show your neighbors some love with a kind note, baked goods or acts of kindness. You can also host a virtual Neighborhood Meet & Greet to get to know neighbors or say "hi."

Then gear up for the upcoming National Night Out on Tuesday, Oct. 6. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

Contact Garland's Office of Neighborhood Vitality, Neighborhoods@GarlandTX.gov or 972-205-2445, for assistance in planning a virtual neighborhood gathering. Check GarlandNeighborhoods.org for updates and resources for National Good Neighbor Day and National Night Out.



Quarterly Neighborhood Leader Meet & Greet Event

Join us for the third quarterly Neighborhood Leader Meet & Greet. The meeting will be held in virtual format at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22.

Hear City updates and learn how other neighborhood leaders are investing in their community. Register now at GarlandNeighborhoods.org.

Garland Neighborhood Awards

Great neighborhoods take work! The City of Garland's Office of Neighborhood Vitality likes to recognize those who make extraordinary efforts to enhance, revitalize or invest in their neighborhoods. The awards include:

- Garland Neighborhood of the Year
- Neighborhood Publication of the Year

Garland neighbors are also asked to nominate:

- Who's Who in Garland Neighborhoods
- Public Servant Award

Visit GarlandNeighborhoods.org to learn more about the awards and to put your neighbors in the running. Applications and nominations are due Friday, Oct. 30. Winners will be announced Thursday, Nov. 5, in the pre-summit mixer.



SCAM ALERT

A current tactic to frighten residents is to pose as a utility worker who needs to come inside the home to check the quality of the drinking water. Even going so far as to say that the water may be contaminated with COVID-19. Neither of these statements are true.

1. A City utility worker will never come to your door unannounced and ask to gain access to the inside of the home.
2. Our water is continually tested, and there is no evidence that COVID-19 can survive in chlorinated water.

Police continually advise the public not to allow anyone into your home who has not scheduled a visit, noting that all utility and City employees have distinct uniforms, badges and vehicles. You can always call the phone number on your utility bill to ask about your water or to see if there is work being done in your neighborhood. Home inspections are not part of the Garland Water Utilities operations.

These suspects are using manipulating tactics to take advantage of innocent people. Don't let these criminals fool you.

If you have any questions about drinking water, always turn to the Garland Water Department for help. Visit GarlandWater.com or call 972-205-3210.



Select Green Choice for **100% Renewable Power**

Garland Power & Light customers can go green by signing up for Green Choice, a power plan that provides 100% renewable energy from Texas wind and solar resources.

“Customers have shown interest in this renewable energy option because these power resources help preserve the environment and are sustainable,” GP&L General Manager and CEO Jeff Janke said.

GP&L's Green Choice only costs a penny more per kilowatt-hour than the regular rate. For a customer using an average of 1300 kWh per month, this option will cost an additional \$13 per month. A minimum 12-month commitment is required.

Enroll in Green Choice online at gpltexas.org/GreenChoice. Or call 972-205-2671.



Flu Season

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic will define a generation. It has affected so many of us personally and has disrupted all of our daily lives.

Public health officials have all been doing their part to stop the spread of this contagious disease. These same professionals have been hard at work serving their communities to slow contagious diseases for decades.

The seasonal flu vaccine is an often overlooked preventive measure for contagious diseases. Leaders in the medical field, including the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are encouraging every American to avoid falling into a tunnel vision mindset. While COVID-19 still remains public enemy No. 1, we must not forget the impact influenza has had on families and our economy long before this coronavirus arrived.

If you want to directly make a difference in public health, please consider getting a seasonal flu shot. This simple yet effective step will help reduce the overall burden that influenza plays on our health care system. It will prevent unneeded trips to the doctor and lessen the chances of hospitalization for not only yourself, but those with whom you spend your time.

The CDC has partnered with states and local health departments to increase the influenza program in preparation of a potential COVID-19 vaccination. The CDC has allowed for a one-time allocation of adult flu doses in the late fall for high-risk insured and uninsured Texans. The Garland Health Department and other Adult Safety Net providers are charged with distribution of the vaccine.

According to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the adult influenza doses will be used to target populations disproportionately affected or at risk for COVID-19. Targeting these high-risk populations will help decrease the chances of contracting both influenza and COVID-19 simultaneously. High-risk populations include but are not limited to:

- Staff and patients in long-term care facilities
- Adults with underlying conditions
- African Americans
- Adults who are part of the critical infrastructure, including:
 - Health care professionals
 - First responders
 - Grocery store workers, manufacturing and food plant workers

What this means is that the seasonal flu vaccination is more affordable than ever!

The Garland Health Department will provide information as details emerge. Remember to take care of yourself and follow all CDC and DSHS guidelines to help protect yourself and your loved ones from the spread of COVID-19 and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

Call 972-205-3370 to schedule an appointment or to get more information.

Garland Landmark Museum

Heritage Crossing is the local repository for historical documents and photos for the City of Garland. Its mission is to preserve and promote the documentary and cultural heritage of the city.

Heritage Crossing and the Garland Landmark Museum hold more than 88 cubic feet of documents and photos, nearly 4,000 digital images and files, and more than 1,100 object artifacts — representing more than 135 years of Garland history.

The Landmark Museum has expanded its hours and is now open to the public on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A new exhibit, Movie Houses of Garland, is currently on display. It explores the history of moving pictures in Garland, from the very first film shown publicly in 1900 to the newest addition of Strike + Reel. More than four movie theatres have been on the Downtown



Square, not including the Air Dome that was at the corner of Main and Fifth streets! Let's all go to the movies and learn about Garland's entertainment history.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, most physically interactive exhibits have been taken out of service. Our touchscreen is wiped down after a patron uses it. Social distancing is encouraged and reminders are posted around the museum. Bathrooms, handrails and doorknobs are wiped down periodically throughout the day.

For patrons who are high-risk, we offer private tours of the museum on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To schedule a private tour, email Heritage@GarlandTX.gov.



GP&L EnergySaver Program *Helps Customers Save Energy and Money*

Home weatherization helps keep your home comfortable year-round, while also reducing your monthly utility costs. Some home upgrades may qualify for utility bill credits through Garland Power & Light's EnergySaver Program.

Qualifying energy efficiency projects include:

- Ceiling insulation (existing and new insulation must be at least R-30)
- ENERGY STAR® windows/doors
- Window solar screens or film
- Duct replacement or sealing
- Weatherization (weather-stripping of doors, caulking windows, sealing plumbing penetrations)

For complete program requirements and applications, visit gpltexas.org/energysaver. For questions, email energyadvisor@gpltexas.org or call 972-205-2929.

Rain Barrel Sale

For a limited time, the City of Garland Water Utilities Department is offering an opportunity to purchase rain barrels at a discounted price.

Through a cooperative purchase, the classic black, 50-Gallon Ivy rain barrel is being offered for \$69 each (normal retail price is \$129 each).

For more information, setup instructions or to place an order, go to rainwatersolutions.com/products/garlandtx.

Quantities are limited, so get your order in soon!

All barrels will be delivered to the Garland Water Utilities Department in October. Orders must be picked up by customers (please bring a vehicle large enough to carry your order). Rain Barrels will not be delivered to individual customers.

Pickup Dates: Tuesday, Oct. 13 or
Wednesday, Oct. 14

Pickup Hours: 3 to 7 p.m. on both days
Pickup Location: 2343 Forest Lane

The Ivy rain barrel comes with everything you need to assemble, collect and use rainwater. Barrels can easily be daisy chained with no added cost. All components included, even a 6' overflow hose!



Top reasons to harvest rainwater:

- Protect rivers and streams from runoff pollution
- Grow healthy and lush plants
- Supplement your water supply
- A free resource that's easy to harvest and use



**HOUSING DISCRIMINATION HAS
NO PLACE IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

"We don't take kids."
"There is a fee for your service animal."
"We only take people who speak English."
"I can't assign you a handicap parking space."
"We can't modify the apartment for you."



GARLAND
FAIR HOUSING SERVICES

**The only way to stop
housing discrimination is
for you to report it.**

Garland Fair Housing Service
210 Carver St., Suite 102
972-205-3300

Quality of Life

Recreation Center events

ARCHERY

- 5 to 5:45 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 9-30

Ages 8 to 14, \$25 per month
Bradfield Recreation Center
1146 Castle Drive

Learn to shoot a competition-style compound bow from an instructor approved by the National Archery in the Schools Program.

972-205-2770 or
BRC@GarlandTX.gov

BOXING FOR ADULTS

- Tuesdays and Saturdays, Sept. 1-29, Times vary

Ages 15 and up, \$40 per month
Fields Recreation Center
1701 Dairy Road

Learn the movements and offensive techniques while conditioning your mind and body. 972-205-3090 or
FRC@GarlandTX.gov

CARDIO FITNESS

- 6 to 7 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 3-24

Ages 18 and up, \$30 per month
Granger Recreation Center
1310 W. Avenue F

This multiple-stage circuit teaches interval training techniques that minimize rest and maximize results.

972-205-2771 or
GRC@GarlandTX.gov

BALLET

- 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 3-24

Ages 6 to 11, \$48 per month
Holford Recreation Center
2314 Homestead Place

Establish a strong foundation in dance through proper movements and techniques.

972-205-2772 or
HRC@GarlandTX.gov

FIELD GOAL DISC GAME

- 6 to 7 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 3-24

Ages 9 to 15, \$20 per month
Hollabaugh Recreation Center
3925 W. Walnut St.

Try out this hot new game that mixes disc throwing and football.

972-205-2721 or
HHRC@GarlandTX.gov

U CAN PAINT

- 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7

Ages 55 and up, \$17 per person
Senior Activity Center
600 W. Avenue A

Complete a painting on canvas with step-by-step instruction. \$17 supply fee in addition to the registration fee.

972-205-2769 or
SAC@GarlandTX.gov

GARDEN CLUB

- 1 to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Oct. 1-29

Ages 55 and up, \$10 per person
Carver Senior Center
222 Carver St.

Create your own garden and learn the best ways to care for it.

972-205-3305 or
SAC@GarlandTX.gov

Register now!

Visit PlayGarland.com or call your local recreation center for more events.



@PlayGarland

Note: Senior centers are currently closed and program start dates are subject to change. Check PlayGarland.com for up-to-date listings.

Composting Methods and Benefits Come in Many Forms

After taking all the prevention steps you can, you will inevitably still have some food waste. Why not try composting instead of throwing it away with the rest of the garbage?

Composting is the process of turning non-animal food scraps and yard waste into a nutrient-dense natural fertilizer. Composting makes the most of your food's valuable nutrients. It conserves space and reduces the release of the greenhouse gas methane at the landfill.

Interested in trying it out for yourself or looking for an excellent project for the kids? Check out this quick breakdown of the types of composting:

- Passive composting: Throw lawn waste in a pile and leave it to break down for a year or more. Not meant for food waste.
- Active composting: Same as passive, but mixed every few days, introducing oxygen to the lower levels. Make sure to water the pile too. Takes three to six months. Can compost both lawn waste and non-animal food waste.
- Indoor vermicomposting: Using a special type of worm called a red wiggler to do the work. Takes one to two months. The worms can handle both lawn waste and non-animal food waste.
- Outdoor vermicomposting: Drill holes all over a small bucket or pail that is then buried underground, letting the worms from the yard do the work. Takes four to six months. Can compost both lawn waste and non-animal food waste.
- Bokashi composting: Letting a beneficial probiotic-type bacteria ferment food scraps. This is the fastest type of composting that takes the least amount of space. But be warned, fermented food scraps don't smell the best! This is the only composting method that can break down animal-based food waste products, like bones.

For more information on what can and should be composted, as well as occasional classes and activities, check out GarlandEWS.com.

Have a question about
Garland's history?

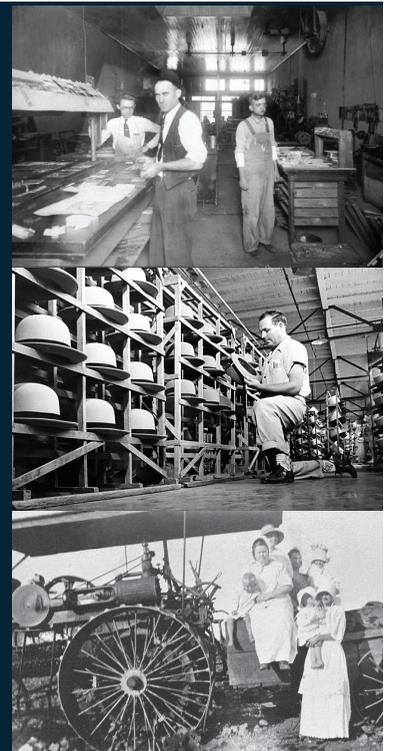
Landmark Museum

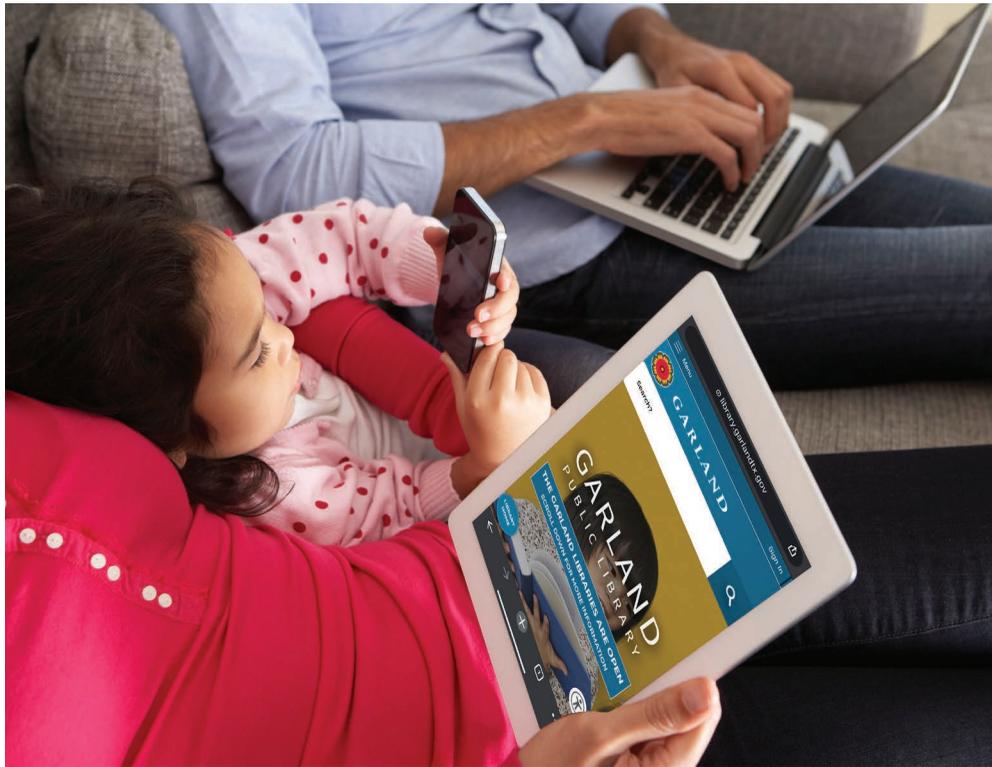
Your history. Here!

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thur., Fri. and Sat.
Located at Heritage Crossing
393 N. Sixth St., Downtown Garland

GarlandHistorical.org





Garland Library Continues to Offer **Virtual Programs, Online Resources and Downloadable Items**

Garland libraries continue to offer virtual programs this fall as an ongoing response to gathering restrictions in place because of COVID-19.

The virtual events include educational, informational and entertainment programs for children, teens and adults. Crafts, story times, basic skills workshops and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) programs are featured.

The library also continues to offer online resources, such as HelpNow's online tutoring, Mango Languages, Brain HQ, the Gale Virtual Reference Library, and Universal Class online courses. All are available remotely at Library.GarlandTX.gov.

E-books, audiobooks, magazines, newspapers and comics are also available for checkout through the library website or through the OverDrive and Libby apps. Free, public WiFi is accessible inside and outside of each library. Online library card registration remains an option on the library website.

Unfortunately the annual Friends of the Library Book Sale, usually held in September, is postponed. The library will announce any new information regarding the sale as it becomes available.

In the meantime, patrons are encouraged to renew their Friends memberships as they expire and support the organization through AmazonSmile, smile.amazon.com. Select "Friends of the Nicholson Memorial Library Inc." as your Smile charity. Start searches at smile.amazon.com, and Amazon will remember your charity selection. All eligible purchases result in a donation to the Friends.

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

Library.GarlandTX.gov



MADE FRESH & LOCAL

A GARLAND EXPERIENCE

Virtual concert series every other Friday night, featuring some of the area's best musicians and artists.



La Pompe Dallas

FRIDAY, SEPT. 11
& OCT. 23

Streaming starts at 7 p.m.



Desabelle

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

Streaming starts at 7 p.m.



Tin Man Band

FRIDAY, OCT. 9

Streaming starts at 7 p.m.





GarlandParks.com
@playgarland #OnlyInGarland #MYMGarland

We are not able to host our traditional outdoor Sounds of Summer Concerts Series at the Square this year, so we are bringing a true Garland fresh and local concert experience straight into your living room! Get a front-row seat to our Made Fresh & Local virtual concert series every other Friday night. The series features some of the area's best musicians and artists.

MADE FRESH & LOCAL PRESENTS:

Available at garlandparks.com/3738/Made-Fresh-Local

Streaming on our Made Fresh & Local event page on our Facebook, @PlayGarland. Comment using the tags #OnlyInGarland and #MYMGarland.

La Pompe – 7 p.m. Sept. 11
Desabelle – 7 p.m. Sept. 25
Tin Man Band – 7 p.m. Oct. 9
La Pompe – 7 p.m. Oct. 23

SHOP LOCAL

For an event-exclusive experience, check out your favorite Mom and Pop businesses for deals on merchandise and food specials.

