

01 PREPAREDNESS IS KEY

PLAN FOR FLOODS OR OTHER DISASTERS

September is National Preparedness Month, and everyone should have an emergency plan in case of flooding or other disasters. It's wise to assemble an emergency kit and have it ready if you need to evacuate. For more information about an emergency plan and emergency kit, visit: www.ready.gov/make-a-plan and www.ready.gov/build-a-kit

Tulsa resident Toby Jenkins had read several times in City Life, "You need flood insurance," and "You can protect your property from flooding." In January 2019, he followed that advice and purchased flood insurance for his home, located next to Riverside Drive. He also learned emergency preparedness at a City of Tulsa training session later that winter.

Jenkins prepared his emergency kit and followed steps to duplicate important documents and secure family heirlooms. With flood insurance and training, he felt prepared when the Arkansas River flood came in May 2019. He had moved many items to the second level of his home and had elevated his furniture on the first floor.

Jenkins packed a suitcase with what he would need if he could not return to his home in the evening, and he carried that suitcase to work with him each day during the flood. His neighborhood did flood, but thankfully the water did not get in Jenkins' home or garage.

"I was prepared to lose everything," Jenkins said. "I am grateful that I did not. My inconvenience and small expense were worth the peace of mind to know I had done all I could do, and the rest was in God's hands. I was spared; others were not."

Know your risk of flooding. To find out if your home or business is located in a floodplain, check maps available at <http://maps.cityoftulsa.org/floodplains> The City of Tulsa has a 40% discount on flood insurance for properties in a Special Flood Hazard Area, and a 10% discount for other properties.

City stormwater engineers also are available to visit your property and give recommendations on how to improve drainage. For more information, contact the Customer Care Center at 311 or (918) 596-7777 (*outside city limits*).



CITY LIFE

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IN THIS EDITION OF CITY LIFE

01 PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Have an emergency plan and make a kit in case of floods or other disasters.

03 DUMPSTERS DELIVERED

Registered neighborhood associations can request dumpsters for cleanups.

02 LATEX PAINT ACCEPTED

Items for disposal at Pollutant Collection Facility now include latex paint.

04 SAVE OUR STREAMS

Never flush medications down toilets; trace amounts get into our streams.

+ PLUS: FIND USEFUL INFORMATION ON CITY WEBSITE

WWW.CITYOFTULSA.ORG | TULSA311@CITYOFTULSA.ORG | CALL 311



02 LATEX PAINT IS OK NOW ACCEPTED AT POLLUTANT FACILITY

The City of Tulsa's Household Pollutant Collection Facility began accepting latex paint in July 2019. This change has been years in the making and is a disposal option which customers have been requesting since the facility opened in 2016.

Anticipating that this waste stream will be very popular with customers, the facility has increased its staff and disposal capacity accordingly.

As with other new or lightly used products, latex paint may be available in the Swap Shop for customers to pick up for free. Swap Shop customers are limited to taking five items at a time. The Household Pollutant Collection Facility is open for residential customers but not businesses disposing of commercial wastes.

To drop off pollutants, it is necessary to make an appointment by calling (918) 591-4325. The facility is open Wednesday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tulsa residents may dispose of pollutants free at the facility.

The Household Pollutant Collection Facility is located at 4502 S. Galveston Ave., near Interstate 44 and the Arkansas River. For questions about accepted and non-accepted items visit www.cityoftulsa.org/resourcerecovery or call (918) 591-4325.



03 DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE

REQUEST FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUPS

The City of Tulsa's Neighborhood Dumpster Program is a service available to registered neighborhood associations to perform neighborhood clean-up activities. Participating groups can request two 30-yard containers every six months to dispose of eligible household items.

Dumpsters are for use at residential sites and cannot be used for commercial purposes (for example, to clean out rental properties). Certain items cannot be placed in the dumpsters, such as limbs and other tree debris, grass clippings, Freon bearing appliances, car parts or tires, air conditioners, roofing materials, whole buildings, sheds or garages.

Do not overfill dumpsters. To ensure safe transport to the disposal site, dumpsters should be no more than three-fourths (3/4) full. Items cannot be placed on the ground around the dumpster.

This program is available at no additional cost to City of Tulsa neighborhood associations. If your neighborhood is interested in participating in this program, your neighborhood leader may apply online at www.cityoftulsa.org/dumpsters or call 311.

Please note: During inclement weather, employees assigned to the Neighborhood Dumpster Program will be reassigned to work the weather event. In this case, drop-off and pick-up dates for dumpsters may be adjusted.

ONLINE SERVICES

USE CITY WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION

Tulsans can access City services and receive answers to questions at the City of Tulsa's website. Visit www.cityoftulsa.org to learn about Tulsa's government, including its programs and services.

While online, you can look up agendas for upcoming meetings of the City Council or other City boards and authorities. To report a problem such as a missed trash collection, property violation or pothole in a city street, Tulsans can use the one-stop reporting option: www.tulsa311.com City representatives also are still available by phone by calling the Customer Care Center at 311 (in city limits) or (918) 596-7777 (outside city limits).

When problems are reported either online or by phone, the information can be forwarded to the correct City department. This creates a method of tracking the issue to ensure that it is addressed.

City of Tulsa water, sewer, stormwater and refuse collection customers also can view their account information and pay bills online. Other methods of City utility bill payment are listed on the website. These include AutoPay – having the payment deducted from a bank account, by phone, by mail, in person or at an authorized payment center.

The City's website is available 24 hours a day; so even if you're busy during hours when City employees and elected officials are in their offices, you can still communicate and get needed information and assistance.



04 SAVE OUR STREAMS

NEVER FLUSH MEDS DOWN TOILETS

Proper disposal of unused medications benefits people's health and the environment. Medications should not be left around the house, available for possible misuse by family members.

Also, medications should not be flushed down toilets. Our wastewater treatment plants are unable to remove the chemicals found in medications, so trace amounts of these drugs are discharged into local streams. Long-term exposure to these chemicals can harm aquatic wildlife.

Tulsa participates in two National Drug Take Back Events each year: spring and fall. The next event will be in fall 2019. The date and location will be announced closer to the time of the event. Check local news for details.

Other options for properly disposing of prescription drugs include:

- **Drop off medications at one of the following stations, any time of the year, Monday through Friday.**
 - Tulsa Police Gilcrease Division, 3436 N. Delaware Ave., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - Tulsa Police Mingo Valley Division, 10122 E. 11th St., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - Tulsa Police Riverside Division, 7515 S. Riverside Dr., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - Tulsa County Sheriff – 303 W. First St., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Incineration through the City of Tulsa residential trash service (the gray cart)**