



## 01 CITY CLOSINGS

### UPCOMING CITY-OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

The City of Tulsa's offices will be closed for Veterans Day and during the holidays at Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Emergency responders, including police and firefighters, will be available as always on those dates. The following closings will occur:

- **Friday, Nov. 11 – Veterans Day\***
- **Thursday/Friday, Nov. 24 – 25 Thanksgiving/Day After\***
- **Friday/Monday, Dec. 23, 26 – Christmas Eve\*/Christmas**
- **Monday, Jan. 2, 2016 – New Year's Day\***

Need assistance with a water or sewer problem during the above City-observed holidays? Call these 24-hour emergency numbers: Water (918) 596-9488 and Sewer (918) 586-6999. Details about City of Tulsa programs and services are available even on holidays. Many questions can be answered, problems reported, utility bills paid, etc. at: [www.cityoftulsa.org](http://www.cityoftulsa.org)

If you need additional assistance during the holidays, you may also call the following:

#### Non-Emergency Numbers

Police: (918) 596-9222

Fire: (918) 596-9977

Community Services Information: 211

\* Trash and Recycling Service will operate as normal on these days.

## CITY LIFE

OCTOBER 2016

---

### IN THIS EDITION OF CITY LIFE

<p>01 <b>HOLIDAY CLOSINGS</b></p> <p>Check out the dates for upcoming closures of City of Tulsa offices.</p>	<p>02 <b>GOING ONCE, TWICE</b></p> <p>Bid on surplus property items, Nov. 19, 9:32 a.m. at 108 N. Trenton.</p>
<p>03 <b>CITY RATES EXPLAINED</b></p> <p>See how the new water and sewer rates help with capital improvements.</p>	<p>04 <b>DUMPSTERS DELIVERED</b></p> <p>Registered neighborhood associations can request dumpsters for cleanups.</p>

**+ PLUS: KEEP FATS, OIL, GREASE OUT OF SEWERS.**

---

WWW.CITYOFTULSA.ORG | MAC@CITYOFTULSA.ORG | (918) 596-2100

# Tulsa

A New Kind of Energy.



## 02 SURPLUS AUCTION

### BID ON CITY PROPERTY ITEMS

Let the bidding begin. The next City of Tulsa Surplus Property Auction will be held Saturday, Nov. 19, starting at 9:30 a.m. at the City's surplus facility, 107 N. Trenton Ave. That facility is located two blocks north and one block west of the I-244 and Utica Avenue intersection.

Prior to the sale, you may preview the merchandise Friday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Saturday, Nov. 19 at 7:30 a.m. Photos of the merchandise also can be viewed online by visiting: [www.chuppsauction.com](http://www.chuppsauction.com)

Surplus vehicles, office equipment/furniture and police property-room items will be included in the sale. All sales are "as is." It is the bidder's responsibility to determine the condition of the merchandise. Three auctioneers may be selling simultaneously, so bidders wanting to bid on multiple items need to bring a partner/proxy. No one under the age of 16 may be admitted to the City surplus property facility.

Cash, MasterCard and Visa cards are accepted. Checks can be accepted only if accompanied by a letter of guaranty from the financial institution on which the check is drawn. Payment is required in full within one hour after the auction ends. An Oklahoma Tax Commission auditor may be present.

If you have questions about the auction, please call (918) 596-7233.

## 03 NEW UTILITY RATES

### HELP FINANCE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Beginning with the November utility bill, utility customers will see either an 8.4 percent (low usage) or an 8.5 percent (average and high usage) increase in their combined water and sewer rates. Rates for refuse, recycling and stormwater will stay the same. The monthly EMSAcare fee also will stay the same.

A low usage customer's water and sewer charges (3,000 gallons of water) will increase by \$2.92 per month, or 10 cents a day – from \$34.59 to \$37.51. An average usage customer's water and sewer charges (7,500 gallons of water) will increase by \$5.90 per month, or 19 cents a day – from \$69.41 to \$75.31. A high usage customer's water and sewer charges (12,000 gallons of water) will increase by \$8.88 per month, or 29 cents a day – from \$104.23 to \$113.11.

These rate increases are necessary to operate, maintain, rehabilitate, and replace the water and sewer systems. The Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority (TMUA) recommended the rate increases and the City Council approved them as part of the 2017 fiscal year budget process.

Without improvements to the water/sewer infrastructure, the risk of system failures, disruptions in service, and inconvenience to customers will increase. TMUA has more than \$4.5 billion in water infrastructure and more than \$3.5 billion in sewer infrastructure that it maintains and prioritizes for replacement. Funding for capital projects to replace water and sewer infrastructure must come through utility rates. Currently, 39 percent of water charges and 46 percent of sewer charges go toward the capital program, including debt payments for money borrowed to finance capital improvements.

TMUA prioritizes capital replacements to use available funds most efficiently. For example, a water line that has failed numerous times in one neighborhood may be in worse condition and need to be replaced sooner than older pipe that hasn't failed in another neighborhood.

TMUA is a public trust created by City charter. TMUA's primary responsibilities are to manage, construct, and maintain Tulsa's water works and sanitary sewer systems, and to fix rates for water and sewer services rendered within its boundaries.

## TRAP THE GREASE

### AVOID COSTLY HOME PLUMBING BILLS

Fats, oils, and grease aren't just bad for your arteries; they are bad for the sewers, too. When food scraps are washed down the drain, the fat and grease from the food can build-up in your sewer lines causing raw sewage to backup into homes, businesses, and the environment. Anything with a fat content, including dairy products, salad dressings, and cooking oils, can contribute to grease clogged pipes. Avoid costly home plumbing bills by following these three simple steps:

- 1. TRAP bacon grease or meat drippings in a sealable container and toss in the trash.**
- 2. SCRAPE all food scraps in the compost or trash.**
- 3. WIPE all greasy, oily, creamy, or buttery food residues from dishes before you wash them.**

*\*Running hot water and soap down the drain does not prevent grease build up and blockages.*

You also can recycle your liquid cooking oils at the City's Household Pollutant Collection Facility. Call (918) 596-2100 to arrange an appointment.

For more information on proper disposal of fats, oils, and grease, visit: [www.trapthegreasetulsa.com](http://www.trapthegreasetulsa.com)

Despite all these preventive measures, if you see, hear or smell something you think might be a sewage overflow or backup, report it immediately by calling (918) 586-6999. The City of Tulsa has a customer service employee available around the clock and, if needed, a work crew is available to inspect and take action.



## 04 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.

The City of Tulsa recently purchased more dumpsters and an additional hauling vehicle for this program. This will significantly reduce wait times for dumpsters and allow more areas of the City to be served.

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. Dumpsters should be no more than three-fourths (3/4) full, so that they are easily transported to the landfill. Items cannot be placed on the ground around the dumpster.

If your neighborhood association is interested in participating in this program, the neighborhood leader may call (918) 596-2100.