

## 01 BACKFLOW PREVENTION

### PROTECT OUR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

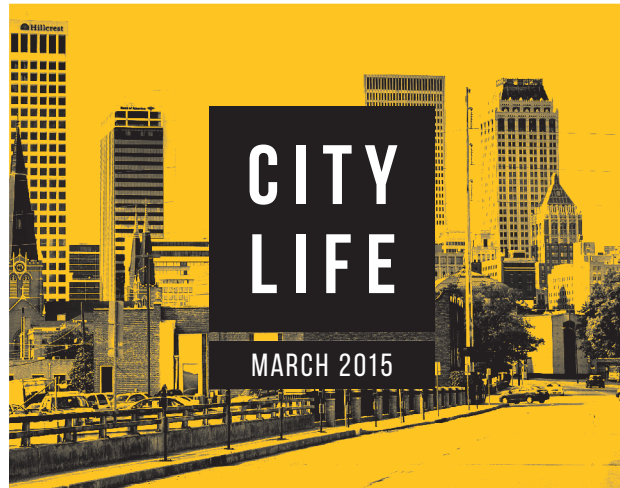
The City's Water & Sewer Department is dedicated to ensuring the water delivered to your home is safe to drink. However, situations outside of the City's control may jeopardize the quality of your drinking water by allowing backflow into the public water system.

**Backflow** is the reverse flow of water from a plumbing system into the public water system. **Cross-connections** can occur between the public water system and anything else allowing the **backflow** of foreign materials into the system.

So how can you protect your home and our water system? Follow these simple precautions to help protect our drinking water system from backflow events.

- **Never submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, sinks or other containers.**
- **Always keep hose ends clear of possible contaminants. An air gap of two inches or more between the hose end and the receptacle is the safest and simplest way of preventing backflow.**
- **Don't tamper with the temperature and pressure valves on hot water tanks. These valves will discharge when there is thermal expansion in the tank and can help prevent backflow into our public water system. Install a thermal expansion tank if necessary.**
- **Don't use garden hose spray attachments to apply chemicals without using a vacuum breaker at the faucet. Lawn or cleaning chemicals are toxic and may be fatal if ingested.**
- **Buy and install inexpensive backflow-prevention devices called vacuum breakers for all faucets in your home, which are readily available at hardware stores and home improvement centers.**

Help the City of Tulsa keep your drinking water safe by practicing Backflow Prevention. If you have questions about backflow, please contact the City's Customer Care Center at (918) 596-2100.



## IN THIS EDITION OF CITY LIFE

### 01 PREVENT BACKFLOW

Follow a few simple precautions to help protect from backflow.

### 03 DROP OFF POLLUTANTS

Dispose of household chemicals in a safe way at the next M.E.T. event.

### 02 PROTECTING CREEKS

Do your part to help prevent pet waste from entering Tulsa's streams.

### 04 FREE LANDFILL EVENT

Take advantage of free Landfill Days, April 11-12 at the Quarry Landfill.

+ **PLUS:** BE WISE IMMUNIZE AND SPRINGFEST EVENTS

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## 02 PET WASTE

### HELP PROTECT TULSA'S CREEKS

Stormwater runoff from our yards enters the city's storm sewer system, which empty into the creeks, streams and rivers in the City of Tulsa. Pet waste enters these waterways by way of stormwater runoff.

Unfortunately through this runoff, a preventable volume of fecal material is added to Tulsa's waterways. Animal wastes contain bacteria, viruses and nutrients. These constituents will lower water quality in our creeks. As a pet owner you can establish habits that will help keep our creeks free of pollutants.

Be sure to walk your pets in grassy areas, parks or undeveloped areas. Take a plastic bag or pooper scooper along on your walk and pick up your pet's waste. Picking up and disposing of pet waste properly can significantly reduce potential health hazards to our streams when you...

- **Flush it into the sanitary sewer**
- **Bury it in your yard, or**
- **Throw it in the trash**

Disposal of anything other than stormwater to the storm sewer system is a violation of city ordinances. Report the illegal disposal of pet wastes and other pollutants to the storm sewer system by calling the City's Customer Care Center at (918) 596-2100.



## 03 HOUSEHOLD POLLUTANTS

DROP OFF ITEMS AT EXPO SQUARE

Rid your home of household chemicals and toxic hazards in a safe way at the next Household Pollutant Collection Event, sponsored by The M.E.T. It's free for Tulsa-area residents. Gates are open 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., March 28 – 29 at the Tulsa Fairgrounds (Expo Square), Gate 7.

### Acceptable Items:

- Household Cleaners
- Pesticides
- Fertilizers
- Cooking Oil
- Batteries
- Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- Smoke Alarms
- Small Ammunition\*
- Aerosol Paint
- Oil-Based Paint
- Stain
- Pool Chemicals
- Items with Mercury
- Automotive Fluids
- Medications

### Unacceptable Items:

- Commercial Waste
- Latex Paint
- Tires
- Computers
- Radioactive Materials
- Dioxins
- Pressurized Gas Cylinders
- Explosives
- Water-Reactive Chemicals

Questions? Visit [www.metrecycle.com](http://www.metrecycle.com) or call (918) 584-0584.

\* Ammunition must be under .50 caliber

## BE WISE IMMUNIZE

ANNUAL TULSA ZOO EVENT FOR KIDS

Immunize children below 19 years at the zoo. Free admission (up to two accompanying family members) if immunized at the April 11 event, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Parents/legal guardian must accompany the child and must bring their child's current immunization record. TDAP available for middle school requirement. Parking fees may apply. For details, visit [www.tulsaimmunize.org](http://www.tulsaimmunize.org) or call (918) 595-4514.

**Sponsors:** Rotary Clubs, Rotary International, Tulsa Area Immunization Coalition, Tulsa Health Department, Oklahoma Caring Foundation and the Tulsa Zoo.



## SPRINGFEST 2015

GARDEN MARKET AND FESTIVAL

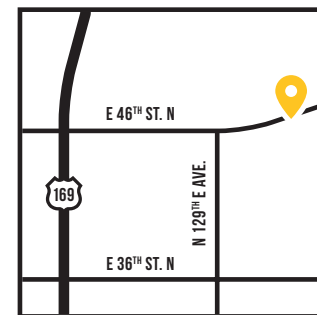
Get scenic gardening tips at the Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S. Peoria Ave., April 10–11, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. The festival will offer a large variety of plants, gardening information, garden art, unique art and craft vendors, a kid's zone with fun activities, plus food and fun for the entire family.

Mark your calendar now to attend this great gardening extravaganza! Proceeds from the event will benefit the Tulsa Garden Center education programs. For more details, visit [www.tulsagardencenter.com](http://www.tulsagardencenter.com) or call (918) 746-5125.



## 04 FREE LANDFILL EVENT

DISPOSE OF YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS



Turn over the effects of your spring cleaning to the City of Tulsa. Utility customers can take advantage of free Landfill Days, Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 12 at the Quarry Landfill, 13740 E. 46th St. N., approximately one-and-a-half miles east of U.S. 169.

The landfill is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., closing promptly at 3 p.m. Simply show a City utility bill or a driver's license with a Tulsa address for admission to the landfill. No items containing Freon refrigerant will be accepted, such as air conditioners and refrigerators.

There are state-imposed fees for discarding tires and the fee is \$2 per tire. Loads in trucks and trailers should be secured and covered to prevent the contents from blowing out onto roadways and creating traffic hazards.

*Please note there are two landfills that are located on E. 46th St. N. Look for the Quarry Waste Management, Inc. signs.*