



01 **SPRINGFEST 2023** TULSA'S PREMIER GARDENING MARKET

Calling all gardeners! Attention plant fanatics! SpringFest, Oklahoma's longest running garden market, returns for the 68th year to Woodward Park, 2435 S. Peoria Ave., on Friday, April 7, and Saturday, April 8. Hours of operation for both days will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thousands of eager green thumbs kick off their gardening season at SpringFest. Come shop from lots of vendors offering a wide variety of plants, garden art, and more, while expert horticulturalists solve all your garden queries.

Enjoy a bite from the SpringFest Snack Barn, while you stroll through past the koi pond in the Teaching Gardens. Additionally, many of the Woodward Park plant societies will have curated plants for sale at their educational booths.

Admission is free for this must-visit, annual educational event for all things gardening. Preferred parking in front of the Tulsa Garden Center mansion is available for \$5, or free for Garden Center and Tulsa Historical Society members, or those with disability tags.

Proceeds from SpringFest benefit educational programming as well as the preservation and beautification of Woodward Park. For more information, visit tulsagardencenter.org/springfest or to become a member, visit tulsagardencenter.org/join



IN THIS EDITION OF CITY LIFE

01 **TULSA GETS GROWING**

Find plants, gardening supplies and more at SpringFest, April 7–8.

03 **YARD BY YARD PROJECT**

Native plants in yards improve soil, water quality and attract wildlife.

+ PLUS: FREE MULCH AVAILABLE AT CITY SITE

02 **MEDICATION DISPOSAL**

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

04 **POLLUTANT DISPOSAL**

Spring cleaning? Bring household chemicals to City's collection facility.

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



02 **SAFE MEDICINE DISPOSAL** 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 spring 2023.

Citizens can also take unwanted prescription drugs to one of the three Tulsa Police Division headquarters and to the Tulsa County Sheriff's office any time of the year, Monday through Friday, except for holidays. Locations and hours include:

- **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.**



03 YARD BY YARD PROJECT

ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Tulsa residents are invited to participate in the Tulsa County Conservation District's new program, Yard by Yard. The Yard by Yard Community Resiliency Project encourages residents in cities to create strong and healthy soil for better water quality. Suggestions include cultivating a variety of plants, offering a water feature, and growing some vegetables.

Yard by Yard recommends adding native plants and flowers to residential yards, helping to restore small, local wildlife, especially birds, bees, butterflies and dragonflies. By incorporating native plants, the soil will grow healthier and the wildlife will thrive with the return of their natural food source.

Native plants have adapted to Oklahoma's conditions: the nutrients in the soil, the amount and distribution of rainfall, and weather extremes of hot and cold. Native plants also have deep root systems that create pathways into the soil so that rain infiltrates and runoff is reduced. What precipitation the plants do not use soaks into aquifers or moves toward the nearest stream – at a natural rate.

Those who join the Yard by Yard program will receive an attractive yard sign, native plant seeds, and alerts about educational opportunities. For more information, contact Gabriel Parker at Tulsa County Conservation District, tulsaccd@conservation.ok.gov or (918) 877-9559.

WORKING IN THE YARD?

VISIT CITY OF TULSA MULCH SITE

Tulsa is a green city, and our yards generate a lot of organic or garden materials – what we call “green waste.” It's a valuable source of mulch for flower beds and can be used on land reclamation sites and for firewood in the winter.

Mulch is a protective covering spread or left on the ground to add nutrients back to the soil, retain moisture by reducing evaporation, suppress weeds, maintain an even soil temperature, and prevent erosion.

The City of Tulsa Mulch Site, located at 2100 N. 145th East Ave., is a green solution where residential and commercial customers can bring green waste to be recovered. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, excluding City holidays.

Customers can drop off plant material including leaves, grass, tree limbs, brush, trunks up to 10 feet long, straw, and chipped trees. These services are free for City of Tulsa, Broken Arrow, Jenks and Bixby residential customers. Remember to bring your driver's license or most recent City utility bill.

A small fee will be charged to commercial customers and residents from towns not listed above. Fees are paid by credit or debit card prior to dumping. No other form of payment will be accepted. See <http://bit.ly/cot-mulch>

Anyone, regardless of location, can pick up an unlimited amount of mulch and firewood at NO COST.



04 POLLUTANT DISPOSAL

BRING CHEMICALS TO CITY FACILITY

Ridding your home of chemicals and potentially hazardous items creates a safer home environment. Many of the chemicals we have in our households could be considered hazardous if used or disposed of in an improper way. The City of Tulsa Household Pollutant Collection Facility at 4502 S. Galveston Ave. is open for disposal of these items Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8 – 11:30 a.m. and noon - 4:30 p.m., excluding City holidays.

Tulsa residents may dispose of pollutants free at the facility. Non-Tulsa residents served by the Metropolitan Environmental Trust can get vouchers to dispose of up to 45 pounds before fees apply; call (918) 584-0584. A Swap Shop at the facility is open for customers to take up to five items.

The Household Pollutant Collection Facility is open for residential customers but not businesses disposing of commercial wastes. For more information about household pollutant disposal in Tulsa, see: www.cityoftulsa.org/resourcerecovery

ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Oil-based paints and thinners
- Latex paint
- Automotive fluids
- Flammable liquids
- Fluorescent and CFL lightbulbs
- Cooking oil/grease
- Aerosols, household cleaners
- Household and car batteries
- Pool and lawn chemicals
- Small electronics, mercury thermostats

NON-ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Large electronics (TVs, monitors, computers)
- Industrial or commercial waste
- Medical or biomedical waste (syringes, needles)
- Asbestos
- Food or organic waste
- Radioactive material
- Ammunition, explosives
- Tires
- Unknown materials or substances