



01 TRUE READS PROJECT: AUTOMATED WATER METER READING

The City of Tulsa has launched the True Reads project, which will upgrade more than 145,000 residential water meters over the next several years with new automated water meters.

Automated Meter Reading (AMR) is a communication technology used by water utilities to automatically collect water consumption data from water meters, minimizing errors and the need for bill estimations.

The meter data is then transferred to a database, where the City's Utility Billing Department can monitor and analyze usage, troubleshoot issues and bill customers based on actual consumption.

During the meter replacements, service lines will be inspected to ensure the City's system is free of lead pipes.

The City of Tulsa does not have lead water mains and historical records show mostly copper and galvanized metal pipe were used for service lines in Tulsa. However, a small amount of lead connectors (small sections of pipe used to connect a house's service lines to meters or a mainline) have been found.

For more information on the True Reads Project and lead service lines, visit www.cityoftulsa.org/TrueReads.



IN THIS EDITION OF CITY LIFE

01 TRUE READS PROJECT

Tulsa upgrading to automated water meters for more accurate readings.

03 DISPOSE OF PET WASTE

Picking up your pet's waste will help keep bacteria out of stormwater.

+ PLUS: KEEP FATS, OILS, GREASE OUT OF SEWERS

02 SPAY OR NEUTER PETS

Dog, cat owners need to follow City ordinance, help control overpopulation.

04 BECOME A POLL WORKER

Tulsa County needs poll workers for the 2024 elections. See how to apply.

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



02 IT'S HIP TO SNIP

FEBRUARY IS SPAY/NEUTER MONTH

Every day in the United States, 70,000 puppies and kittens are born. Every day in the United States, 10,000 humans are born. These statistics show a main reason why so many animals are in shelters.

You can help decrease the number of animals coming to the Tulsa Animal Welfare Shelter by spaying or neutering your pet. Benefits of spaying or neutering pets include:

- **Increased chances for longer, healthier lives**
- **Minimized risk of disease in reproductive organs**
- **Reduced aggressive behavior, including dog bites**
- **Lower desire to escape from home in search of a mate**
- **Owners avoid a citation for having an unsterilized animal in the City of Tulsa. Yes, it's the law in Tulsa to spay or neuter pets.**

City ordinance requires all dogs and cats over the age of six months to be spayed or neutered. Certain exemptions are allowed by permit.

Tulsa Animal Welfare does not offer spay/neuter services to the public. Consult a veterinarian or low-cost spay/neuter clinic. For more information, email tawinfo@cityoftulsa.org.



03 PET WASTE DISPOSAL

HELP KEEP STORMWATER RUNOFF CLEAN

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

The City of Tulsa monitors and regularly samples streams and stormwater outfalls for dozens of potential pollutants and uses bacterial source tracking to help identify pollutant sources. In several Tulsa creeks, test results show that human and dog wastes are the leading sources of bacterial pollution.

As a pet owner, you can help keep creeks free of pollutants by picking up your pet's waste. Take a plastic bag or pooper scooper along on your walk. To reduce potential health hazards to our streams, here's how to dispose of pet waste:

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

Save our streams. Disposal of anything other than stormwater to the storm drain system is a violation of city ordinances. To help keep our waterways clean and healthy, report to **311** any sewer overflow or unusual discharge to the storm drain system.

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 back up into homes, businesses and the environment. Anything with a fat content 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, 4502 S. Galveston Ave. It is open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8 to 11:30 a.m. and noon to 4:30 p.m.

Visit www.trapthegreasetulsa.com for more information on proper disposal of fats, oils, and grease.

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 POLL WORKERS NEEDED

NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES

Poll workers are election heroes. They may not leap tall buildings in a single bound, but they do:

- **Streamline elections**
- **Safeguard ballot security**
- **Ensure the right to vote**

In addition to November's presidential election, several other elections are scheduled in 2024. The number of poll workers is critically low, not only in Tulsa County but across the nation.

Keeping precincts fully staffed with local community members is not only a civic duty but it's the law. Elections simply don't exist without poll workers. The Tulsa County Election Board is now recruiting and training poll workers for the 2024 election year.

Poll workers not only give back to their community, but they also get paid. The current pay rate for poll workers is \$100 to \$110. In July 2024, poll workers' pay will double to \$200 to \$225 per election day.

Poll workers in Tulsa County must be registered voters in the county and attend a paid, mandatory training class. For information on how to apply, see www.tulsacounty.org/pollworkers, call the Precinct Official Department at **(918) 596-5762**, or just scan the QR code in the graphic above.