

**PORTLAND MUST FOLLOW CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI
WATER RESTRICTIONS**

Portland buys its water from the San Patricio Municipal Water District. The District treats raw water from the City of Corpus Christi and supplies it to cities and industry in the North Bay area. By contract, cities and the water district must follow the same Drought Management Plan as the City of Corpus Christi. In July, the Corpus Christi City Council voted to extend Stage 2 water restrictions until combined lake levels reach 90% for at least 15 days. Current lake levels are 61%. To view a list of current restrictions, visit our website at www.portlandtx.com.

PORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT REMINDS US

The Police Department recovers many bicycles every year. Most are located by Police Officers during routine patrols, or found by citizens who, in turn, bring them to the police department. Officers attempt to locate the bikes' owners by cross-checking serial numbers on the bikes against reports of lost and stolen bikes. But most recovered bicycles are never returned to their owners. If an owner does not have record of their bike's serial number, it is nearly impossible to reunite the bikes with an owner.

Take a moment to jot down the serial number, record any identifying features, and take a few cell phone photos. Serial numbers from missing bikes are added to the State's computer information data base. Officers who find bikes can then check the database for a match.

If you have lost a bike or had one stolen, please report it. You can also visit the police department to determine if your bike is there.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Park It! 2015

We are hosting block parties at various city parks during summer 2015! We will bring the popcorn and sno cones, you bring the family and friends. Food, fun and raffles to win! Mark your calendar s and come out and enjoy the park with us! **Events run from 6:00 to 8:00 PM**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Park</u>
August 6	Briar Bluff Park, 1530 Briar
August 13	Violet Andrews Park, 154 Elm

Portland Aquatic Center

Summer Season

Through August 23, 2015: Competition Pool and Recreation Pool; 12:00 - 6:00 PM. Tuesday – Sunday. Closed Mondays.

Dive-In Movies

Come out for an evening swim while watching a movie on the big screen. Snacks provided. Passes do not apply. Thursday, August 6 from 9:00 - 11:00 PM. \$3.00/person.

Liquid Luau

Aloha! Say goodbye to another great summer season with a fun-filled evening of music, games and giveaways. Join in the Limbo contest, wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt, or just enjoy the evening with the family! Passes do not apply for this event. Thursday August 13, 8PM-10PM — Regular admission prices.

Little Tykes Swim

A special time for Tots and their parents at the Portland Aquatic Center! For children 6 years and younger, with a parent or guardian. Children must stay within arm's reach of a parent. Every Wednesday through August 19; Saturday August 15. Regular admission prices.

Kidz Klub

The Parks and Recreation Department and Gregory-Portland ISD co-sponsor the Kidz Klub after school program. It is a recreation program offered at 4 schools within the City. Children K through 6th grade are eligible for enrollment. Quality recreational activities that enhance children's leisure skills in safe and familiar surroundings are included. Extended Kidz Klub hours will be available on early dismissal days.

The program will run from the time school is dismissed through 6 PM. All Kidz Klub staff are certified in CPR/first aid. This program is licensed by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

Watch for new and improved programming to enhance your child's experience at all Kidz Klub sites! There will be fitness, fun, art, sports and a variety of other unique recreational opportunities.

Andrews, 1100 Lang	Mon-Fri 3-6 PM	\$935
Clark, 2250 Memorial	Mon-Fri 3-6 PM	\$935
East Cliff, 200 Fulton	Mon-Fri 3-6 PM	\$935
GP Intermediate, 4100 Wildcat	3-6 PM	\$935

S.F. Austin students can be bused to an elementary school in the City of Portland. The school site will be determined by the School District.

- \$60 registration fee due at time of enrollment
 - \$95 monthly tuition, due on the 1st of every month
 - \$15 late fee will be implemented after the 10th of the month
- All delinquent fees must be paid before child can return to program

PUBLIC WORKS WANTS US TO KNOW

Staving Cool in the Pool

What is required to install a pool? We've gathered the following pointers to ensure that whatever method you use to cool off this summer you adhere to the City ordinances.

Pools – Most pools in Portland require a permit before installation. It is important that you contact Development Services at 777-4553 for questions regarding your specific project before you begin.

In-ground pool – All in-ground pools within the City of Portland require a permit. You will need to have your survey, elevations, and a permit application filled out to submit a complete packet for review.

Above ground pool (greater than 48") – Above ground pools greater than 48" in depth require a permit. You will need to have your survey and fill out a permit application for review; this will ensure that the placement of the pool will not encroach any easement.

Above ground pool (48" or less) – Above ground pools 48" or less in depth do not require a permit. However, they may not be placed in the Utility Easement.

Spa/Hot Tub – All spas and hot tubs require a permit. The requirements and process are identical to swimming pools depending on if it is in-ground or above ground.

Filling a Pool – The City is still under Drought Management Plan 2. You are only allowed to fill up swimming pools on your trash day.

Aquatic Center – Remember! You have a community pool also - the Aquatic Center is now open Noon – 6pm Tuesday through Sunday.

Please remember that any swimming pool or spa/hot tub, regardless of size or depth, poses a possible safety risk. The Development Services Department has Play it Safe! Materials available (located at Public Works) to provide valuable information to families on ensuring safe play in the water.

Republic gets help with brush collections

The City's waste contractor, Republic Services, has engaged Crower Gulf, a 3rd-party contractor to assist them with brush and bulky pickups. The contractor will begin their operations on July 23rd and continue until Republic is back on schedule. If you have questions about brush pickup, call (361) 777-4601.

CITY OF PORTLAND
1900 Billy G. Webb Drive
Portland, Texas 78374
Phone: 361-777-4500



The Land of Possibilities

www.portlandtx.com

BELL WHITTINGTON LIBRARY NEWS

2015 Summer Reading was a HUGE success!

Thank you to all who participated,—nearly 300 kids!—and congratulations to those who won prizes!

SPECIAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

For Elementary School aged children! Presented by Connections Prevention Specialist Michaela Flores
Monday August 3 at 3 PM

NATIVE AMERICAN STORYTIME

Presented by local writer Max Oliver
Tuesday August 4 at 10 AM

VALUES AUCTION

Presented by Michaela Flores
Monday August 17 at 3 PM

A Values Auction is a mock auction in which each child will be given a stack of play money. Traditional values, such as honesty, courage, loyalty, honor, etc., will be auctioned off. Kids have to decide which values they want and how much they are willing to spend to get them. After the auction there will be a discussion on which values they purchased, why they chose those particular values, and how those values affect their choices in everyday life.

MR. KIPPY IS BACK, STARTING AUGUST 6! Stories, games and reading fun for little ones! At 9 AM and again at 10 AM—every Thursday!

UTILITY BILLING

Changes in credit card sales

In the wake of many large-scale data breaches and increasing rates of counterfeit credit card fraud, U.S. card issuers are rolling out a new technology to protect consumers and reduce fraud. Beginning in October, credit and debit cards will contain a chip that will require users to insert their card into a machine instead of swiping it. The chip cards are expected to be in place and widely used by the end of 2015.

For your protection, starting October 1, 2015, the City will no longer accept credit or debit card payments over the phone.

All City offices that take credit or debit cards will switch their point-of-sale equipment to accept chip cards by October 1, 2015. Once the new chip card comes out, vendors like the City will make the City become liable, or responsible, for payments made by phony credit or debit cards.

This new type of card improves fraud protection for consumers, as well as the City. This new chip card changes the way users make payments, and the way the City takes payments. Customers can still make credit or debit card payments in person or through our online payment service. If you want to make a utility payment or municipal court payment online please go to our website at www.portlandtx.com. If you have any questions please feel free to contact City Hall at (361) 777 4500.

PORTLAND SENIOR CENTER

Silver Sneakers

The Silver Sneakers Fitness Program is a comprehensive older-adult fitness program that addresses the needs of the Medicare population (age 65+). It is a chair-based fitness class that focuses on retraining useful movements that decline with age. This is a great class with activities paced for you, set to fun, catchy tunes. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10:30 AM, at the Portland Community Center. No cost to Silver Sneakers members; \$4 for Senior Citizens.

Senior Dances

Join us at the Portland Community Center for our monthly Senior Dances. Grab your dancing shoes and come out for live music, snacks, dancing and lot of fun! Friday, August 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM. Cost is \$3.00 per person.

Portland Opry

Join us at the Portland Community Center for our monthly Opry! Thursday, August 13. Starts at 7:00 PM. (Doors open at 6 PM). Cost is \$7 per person.

Game Days

Games Galore! Don't want to be stuck playing the same old games? We have Game Days at the Senior Center on the second Wednesday of the month. Come join your friends for light refreshments, cards, bingo and dominoes. Wednesday, August 12, at 1:00 PM. And it's FREE!

Coushatta Casino "No-Brainers" Trip to Kinder, Louisiana

Join us as your comfy Rockport Tours coach whisks you to the Best Western in Kinder, LA, just a few steps from the casino. Coushatta "No-Brainers" trip includes transportation, 1 night of lodging at the Coushatta Grand Inn, free 24/7 shuttle to and from the casino, as well as the services of a Rockport Tours escort. It's easy and great fun! IMPORTANT: For everyone's safety, WE DO NOT drive overnight! Please arrive at your pickup place at least 15 to 20 minutes before scheduled departure. Thursday August 20-Friday August 21 Depart 6:15 AM from Portland Wal-Mart parking lot, Return at 12:00 noon August 21. Cost is \$85 per person. Call 361 643-9431 to register, or visit the Senior Center. Limited seating!

End of Summer Party

Send the summer off in style with our annual cookout. We will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs to celebrate the end of another great summer!

Friday August 26 at 12:00 noon FREE!

GET INVOLVED!

The City of Portland is looking for qualified citizens who would like to be considered for appointment to a board or commission. Regular board, commission and committee members must be at least 21 years of age, have resided within the City of Portland for at least 12 months, be registered to vote, not be in financial arrears to the City.

Call (361) 777-4513 for more information, or go to www.portlandtx.com, click on "Government," and click on "Boards and Commissions," to download an application.

Literacy is a noun defined as: *Ability to read and write; progress; self sufficiency; hope; the shortest distance to individual, social, and economic development.*

Change A Life And Ignite Your Life...Teach Someone to READ!

Volunteers "Wanted" Sign-Up Today!

**New tutor workshop on
Saturday, Aug. 15. 10am-4pm
Bell-Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Parkway,
Portland, 78374**



For more information call
San Patricio County Adult Literacy
361-364-2310 or email: sanpatliteracy@yahoo.com