



PARKS AND RECREATION

October 10th, 8am BOO BASH TRIATHLON Joe Burke Pavilion
Come join the City and Al Willeford Chevrolet at the 3rd Annual Boo Bash Triathlon Festival! We have something for everyone, from the "Weekend Warrior" to the "Elite Athlete!" Here are some details:

- ◆ Newbie - 200 yard swim + 6 mile bike + 1 mile run Cost: \$60.00
- ◆ Sprint Triathlon - 400 yard swim + 14 mile bike + 5K run Cost: \$75.00
- ◆ Sprint Relay - 400 yard swim + 14 mile bike + 5K run Cost: \$100.00
(Relay completed by 2-3 people)

Each finisher will receive a t-shirt, medal food and entertainment!

Register at: www.itsyourrace.com

October 24th, 6pm BOO BASH! Joe Burke Pavilion
Calling all ghosts and goblins! Come out to enjoy the Annual Boo Bash! Contests will be limited to the first 30 who pre-register in each age group. Registration ends promptly at 6:45 PM on the day of the event.

- Events will include:**
- ◆ Costume contest for children
 - ◆ Costume contest for pets
 - ◆ Pumpkin decorating contest
 - ◆ Carnival games
 - ◆ Inflatable slides.



The Bloodmobile will be on-site. Parents: Donate blood and save a life! It's an easy way to make a big difference in your community while attending this FREE event!

December 1st - 14th TOY DRIVE Community Center
The Portland Parks and Recreation Department will host a toy drive to benefit "Christmas For Kids Year Round." Drop off a new, unwrapped toy at the Portland Community Center from December 1-14, 2015. Make a difference in our community by making Christmas just a little brighter for children in Portland!

December 3rd, 5:30pm CHRISTMAS IN PORTLAND Community Center
The 12th Annual Christmas in Portland event, sponsored by the City of Portland and the Kiwanis Club of Portland, will be held on Thursday December 3, 2015. Parents, be sure to bring your cameras to take pictures with Santa!

- Festivities will include:**
- ◆ Pictures with Santa
 - ◆ Hayrides
 - ◆ Winter carnival games
 - ◆ Refreshments
 - ◆ Appearances by Rudolph and Frosty!



All participants are encouraged to bring a new toy, in the original packaging but not gift wrapped, to this free event to be donated to our "Christmas For Kids Year Round."

December 7th, 6pm PARADE OF LIGHTS Community Center
Santa Claus is coming to...Portland! Welcome Santa to town as he travels the illuminated parade route through the community. The 2015 "Christmas in Portland Parade of Lights" will begin at 6 pm on Monday December 7th.

Individuals and companies that are interested in participating in the parade may complete a registration form available at the Portland Community Center.

CITY HALL

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM CITY HALL

In the wake of numerous large-scale data breaches and increasing rates of counterfeit card fraud, U.S. card issuers are migrating to a new technology to protect consumers and reduce the costs of fraud. This payment method will be in the form of a chip card. 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 will be in place beginning October 2015 and widely used by the end of 2015.

Once the new chip card comes out, taking payments over the phone will make the City 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.

All City offices that take credit or debit cards will switch over their point-of-sale equipment to accept chip cards by October 1, 2015.

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.

Postal Service Delays

The Portland branch of the United States Postal Service is reorganizing routes due to the growth of the City. If you mail your utility bill payment, please make sure you mail your payment a little earlier to ensure that it gets to the City before the 15th of the month. Payments received after the 15th of the month are subject to penalties. If the 15th falls on a Saturday or Sunday, you have until Tuesday the 17th before noon to bring your payment in or drop it in the drop box. Please feel free to call the Utility Billing Department if you have any questions at (361) 777-4500.

SENIOR CENTER

October 2nd, 6:30pm SENIOR DANCE Community Center
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, October 2nd from 6:30 to 9:30 PM. Cost is \$3.00 per person.

October 8th, 5:30pm PORTLAND OPRY Community Center
Don't miss the Opry! Doors open at 5:30 PM. Join us for dinner! Hot food available at additional cost. The show starts at 7 pm, and you will be blown away by the amazing talent we have here on our Portland stage! So come on down and enjoy the show! Thursday, October 8. Cost is \$7 per person.

Tues, Thurs, Fri, 10:30am SILVER SNEAKERS Community Center
The Silver Sneakers Fitness Program is a comprehensive, chair-based, older-adult fitness program that addresses the needs of the Medicare population (age 65+). Silver Sneakers 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.

October 14th, 1pm Game Day Senior Center
Games Galore! Don't want to be stuck playing the same old games? We have Game Day at the Senior Center the second Wednesday of each month (excluding holidays). Come join your friends for light refreshments, cards, dominoes, and bingo. Free for all to participate.

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



www.portlandtx.com

BELL WHITTINGTON LIBRARY

BOOK-A-PALOOZA!

Saturday October 10, 2015
11 AM to 3 PM
First United Methodist Church
at 4545 Wildcat Drive.



Storybook characters, games and FREE books!! The Magik Theater will present a play, "Jack and the Beanstalk," as the grand finale!

Join us as we promote early childhood literacy with LOTS of reading fun for little ones!

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE!!

October 22-26, 2015



If you become a member of the Friends group, you can attend the special "pre-view" night on Wednesday October 21 at 7 PM!

Great books at low prices!!

CHRISTMAS MAKERSPACE/POINSETTIA WREATH

Saturday, November 14th at 10:30 AM
Thursday, November 19th at 6 PM.
Space is limited, register at the Library or call (361) 777-0921

There is a \$15 materials fee payable at the door.



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Every Monday from 4-5 PM for Kinder through 6th grade. Crafts, science fun, movies and snacks!

TODDLER TIME

Every Tuesday from 10-11 AM for babies, toddlers and preschool age children. Mrs. Dorothy will present stories, finger plays and crafts for little ones!

TEEN LIBRARY LOUNGE

Every Thursday from 4-6 PM. Drop in and enjoy snacks, board games, video games and crafts

PUBLIC WORKS

Drought Management Stage 2 is Currently in Effect

The City of Portland continues to be in Stage 2 of its Drought Management Plan. All water customers (residential, commercial, schools and municipal facilities) are required to implement the following water restrictions.

The Stage 2 Restrictions include:

Watering with irrigation systems or hose-end sprinklers is only allowed on the residential trash day. For commercial dumpster accounts, the watering day is the residential trash day for that address. Watering is only allowed on Fridays for those customers outside of city limits without a residential trash day. If you are unable to ascertain the proper day, please call Public Works 361-777-4601. Watering is not allowed between 10am – 6pm.

- ◆ Watering is permitted on any day, at any time, if it is done with a bucket, watering can or hand-held hose with a positive shutoff nozzle.
- ◆ Using water to wash a car, boat, etc. is only allowed on the residential trash day. Watering can only be done with a bucket, watering can or hand-held hose with a positive shutoff nozzle.
- ◆ Using water to fill a pool is only allowed on the residential trash day.
- ◆ Foundation watering is allowed any day using a hand-held hose or drip irrigation.
- ◆ Commercial car washes can continue to operate at any time.
- ◆ Water may not run constantly through a tap, hydrant or valve.
- ◆ Defective plumbing which results in water loss must be repaired.
- ◆ Watering down a building, driveway, sidewalk or street is prohibited.

Variances to the restrictions are available for limited circumstances (i.e., newly-planted grass and large properties requiring more than one watering day). Variance applications are available at Public Works (1101 Moore Avenue or <http://www.portlandtx.com/index.aspx?NID=399>).

Please contact Public Works at (361) 777-4601 for any questions regarding Stage 2 watering restrictions. Information will also be updated on our website as conditions warrant.

Mosquitoes

The Streets Division is responsible for the mosquito spraying throughout the City of Portland. During the mosquito season, which typically runs from March to November (depending on weather), routine surveillance (including mosquito traps and landing counts) is used to determine frequency for mosquito spraying. Optimal spraying is conducted between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

Mosquito Control Tips:

- ◆ Avoid outside activity at dusk and dawn during mosquito season.
- ◆ Wear protective clothing.
- ◆ Make sure that door and window screens fit tightly.
- ◆ Drain all standing water in roof gutters, trash cans, untreated swimming pools, etc.
- ◆ Properly dispose of tires, flower pots, cans (any refuse that may collect water). Helping control the mosquito population is the responsibility of all property owners.

Please be sure to maintain your property to minimize stagnant water problems for you and your neighborhood. To report mosquitoes in your neighborhood, call (361) 777-4601. Please provide an accurate address to assist the city with state-required mosquito control survey tracking; if an address is not available a street a block range.