



PUBLIC WORKS

Mosquitoes

The Streets Division is responsible for the mosquito spraying throughout the City of Portland. During the mosquito season, which typically runs from April to October, 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 provide a street or a block range.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

All this amazing rain we have received means new growth. We would like to remind residents about several ordinances:

Weed and Lawn Maintenance

The City of Portland expects residents to help maintain the beauty of the community through well-kept lawns. This means that weeds or grass may not exceed a height of twelve inches.

If a neighboring lawn exceeds twelve inches in height, residents may contact the Code Enforcement at (361) 777-4447 with the address of the property. A code enforcement officer will visit the property to confirm the violation and notify the homeowner that the lawn needs to be cut to an acceptable length.

After a code violation notification is given, a homeowner has seven days to bring the lawn into compliance. If the lawn is still not cut, a landscaping company contracted by the City of Portland will cut the lawn, and the homeowner will be billed for the work. If these fees are not paid, the homeowner will have a lien placed against the property.

Tree Maintenance

It shall be the duty of any person or persons owning or occupying real property and whose responsibility shall include that portion of public property bordering on any street, alley or public way upon which there may be trees, to prune or remove such trees to a clear height of seven (7) feet above the sidewalk, and to a clear height of twelve (12) feet above the driving surface, so that they will not obstruct the passage of pedestrians, obstruct or handicap vehicles upon streets and alleys, obstruct or shade street lights, obstruct fire hydrants, obstruct the view of traffic signs, or obstruct the view of any street or alley intersection for a distance of twenty (20) feet from the point of intersecting property lines.

MUNICIPAL COURT

Wondering if Portland Municipal Ordinances will allow you to have backyard chickens, goats or other livestock? We are asked this question more often due to reports that Corpus Christi allows them. The answer to these questions depends on several factors including the size of your lot.

According to Sec 3-22 of City of Portland Code of Ordinances,



livestock must be kept in a stable, shed, pen or other enclosure at least two hundred (200) feet from every adjoining lot in any residential district, AND, at least fifty (50) feet from every building or structure used for sleeping, dining and living. Also, Sec. 3-26 makes it the duty of every person raising or keeping chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guineas, pigeons, or other fowl to keep them in a pen, coop, or enclosure at least fifty (50) feet from every building or structure used for sleeping, dining, or living. Those pens must be kept in a sanitary condition, and shall be kept in such a manner as will be reasonably calculated not to become offensive to adjacent neighbors or to the public.

Most residential lots in Portland will not meet these requirements. Please contact Animal Control at (361) 777-4444 prior to purchasing or bringing any livestock or fowl into Portland City limits, or if you have any additional questions.

The City of Portland encourages pet owners to properly tag their animals with the city license tag and the rabies vaccination tag, issued by a licensed veterinarian. When worn by the animals, these tags can assist in reuniting lost animals with the owners. To locate a lost pet, or for adoption information, please contact the Police Department any time, even after hours and weekends.

Dogs and cats must be registered annually. The cost of registration is \$5 per animal. Proof of rabies vaccination is required to register your pet. Upon registration, your animal will be issued a city identification tag.

Portland strictly enforces a leash law. If your dog is loose without a restraint you will be in violation of the City of Portland Code of

CITY OF PORTLAND

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The Land of Possibilities

PARKS AND RECREATION

**Boo Bash Triathlon
2nd Annual Triathlon**

Portland Parks & Recreation, along with Al Willeford Chevrolet, present the 2nd Annual Boo Bash Triathlon.

A Newbie, Sprint and Sprint Relay will be held on Saturday, October 18th at 8 am. The start and finish will be at the Portland Aquatic Center. Sign up now at www.itsyourrace.com or call the Portland Community Center at (361) 777-3301 for further information.

Boo Bash

It's that time of year again for our annual Boo Bash! This year we will be located at the Joe Burke Pavilion on Saturday, October 25 from 6-9 pm. The Blood Mobile will be on site for your donations. Costume contest registration begins at 5 pm and space is limited. For further information call the Portland Community Center at (361) 777-3301.

Aquacats Winter Swim Team:

The winter season is underway and it's not too late to register! Ages: 5-99. Monday and Thursday 6-7 pm. \$140.

Portland Aquatic Center

Lap Swim Hours: Monday-Friday: 6:30-9 am.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 5:00-7:30 pm.

Kidz Klub 2014-2015

Kidz Klub registration for the 2014/2015 school year is ongoing. Kidz Klub is an after school program held at GP Intermediate, Andrews Elementary, TM Clark Elementary and East Cliff Elementary. The program is licensed by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Activities include games, arts and crafts projects, guest presentations and special events. \$60.00 registration fee, \$95.00/month. Ages 5-12 (5 year olds must be entering Kindergarten in the fall). Monday – Friday, 3 pm – 6 pm, excluding holidays.

Senior Dance

Friday, October 3, 2014. 6:30 to 9:30pm. Portland Community Center. Music by Bud Whittington. \$3 per person.

Senior Game Day Wednesday, October 8, 2014. 1:00 to 3:30 pm. Portland Senior Center.

Change a Life!

Help a neighbor learn to read & write.

Volunteer to be an Adult Literacy Tutor with

SAN PATRICIO COUNTY ADULT LITERACY

Over 30% of adults in San Patricio County read and write below sixth grade level. SPCALC in conjunction with the Bell-Whittington Public Library and other libraries in the county offer the resources needed to help adult residents living or working in San Patricio County to improve their literacy skills, study for their GED or Citizenship test, as well as classes for ESL learners.



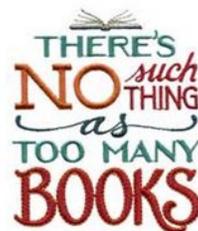
Volunteer tutors are always welcomed and now is a great time to sign-up! SPCALC offers free orientation and training to become an Adult Literacy tutor and no prior teaching experience or ability in a second language is needed. For details, please contact Linda Medellin at (361) 364-2310 or sanpatliteracy@yahoo.com. Volunteer tutor applications are available at every public library in San Patricio County.

New group classes starting soon. One-to-one classes are available in areas throughout the county. Adults 17 years or old may register for literacy services offered by SPCALC at any public library in San Patricio County or by calling (361) 364-2310.

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Sale October 23–27, 2014 at the Bell/Whittington Public Library. Lots of books at a great price!

Book-a-Palooza Saturday, October 11th 11am – 2 pm Library grounds. Reading fun for everyone! FREE Books! Food, games, storybook characters & much more. Book-a-Palooza Story Time - Children's Area in the library 2:00–3:00 pm.



Homecoming Mum & Garter: Teen Workshop Thurs. Oct. 2nd 4 – 6 pm @ the library. Contact the library by phone at (361) 777-0921 or in person to pre-register.

Genealogy Program featuring Mr. C. Herndon Williams Wednesday, Oct. 13th at 3:00 pm.

Mr. Williams will present the following stories:

"The Devil's Rope Marked the End of the Texas Frontier"

"Stephen F. Austin in Love".

To close the program Mr. Williams will have a book signing of the following books:

"Texas Gulf Coast Stories" and "Stories from 700 Years of the Texas Frontier"

Cost of books \$20 each.



Real Coupons - Extreme Savings Series Presented by Couponing in the Coastal Bend.
Class #1 – Thursday, Oct. 16th 6-8 pm.
Class #2 – Saturday, Oct. 18th 10 am – 2 pm.
Call (361) 777-0921 to reserve a spot today!

The Great Pumpkin Give Away is set for Wednesday, Oct. 29th @ 4:00 pm. One free pumpkin per family with a book check-out. While supplies last.