



Heavy Trash and Yard Waste Updates

Guidelines revised by City Council on February 3

City news,
features,
and
updates

This Week in Huntsville

On February 3, the City Council conducted a second reading and adopted the City's updated guidelines for heavy trash pick up charges and yard waste bagging requirements (fee schedule changes for Solid Waste were approved on January 20).

Heavy Trash Pick Up

Effective April 3, 2015, customers who call in for Heavy Trash Service will have a \$25.00 charge added to their City of Huntsville utility account bill each time the service is used.

This service is for residential customers only with an active utility account and a call-in is required. Requestors call 936-294-5796 to leave information on the voice mail in order to be added to the pick up list. They must leave a name, service address, account number, contact number, and a description of the item or items to be picked up.

Heavy Trash Service is for furniture, appliances, piles of brush not to exceed 4 feet high, 10 feet in length, and 5 feet in depth, or limbs no larger than 12 inches in diameter and cut to 5 feet in length.

Natalie Mimms, Assistant Superintendent for Solid Waste and Recycling Services, said the changes were brought for consideration to help recover and reduce costs of tonnage hauled, vehicles, and staff time.

"Residents inside the City limits will still be able to bring heavy trash and their ID to the Transfer Station and pay just over three cents a pound, with a \$5.00 minimum, if that's a more affordable option for the items they need to dispose of," Mimms added. "For non-residents, it's about four cents per pound, with a \$6.25 minimum."

Yard Waste

Beginning April 3, yard waste must be placed for pick up in one of the following acceptable manners:

- In paper compostable yard bags which can be purchased from local retailers
- In personal trash cans not to exceed 30 gallons
- Limbs no larger than 4 inches in diameter, cut to four feet in length, must be tied securely in bundles no larger than 2 feet in diameter, and not weigh more than 50 pounds

All yard waste must be placed at the street's edge on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays of each month by 6:00 a.m. The total number of bagged, canned, or bundles of yard waste is limited to 12 per household per collection day. The Solid Waste Division asks residents to please consider these alternatives to having yard waste picked up by the City:

- Use a mulching blade on lawn mowers and compost leaves and other yard debris
- Bring yard waste directly to the Transfer Station facility with a current utility bill and identification with a matching address to dispose of yard waste at no charge
- Require personal lawn services to either use compostable bags, or haul away yard debris

Solid Waste Superintendent Esther Herklotz said the change in bagging requirements will help keep green waste out of landfills. "Last year, over 500 tons of leaves, grass clippings, and small limbs went in with the City's garbage due to insufficient manpower to remove materials from non-recyclable bagging. Anyone can dispose of yard waste for a disposal fee. Residential customers with current City Utility bill and matching drivers license can dispose of yard waste at no cost."

For more information and specifics, please go to the City of Huntsville web page under Departments/ Public Works/Solid Waste /Recycling.

Updated information for the Solid Waste Division is available on the City's Web site, www.huntsvilletx.gov, and citizens are also welcome to contact the office at (936) 294-5724 or eherklotz@huntsvilletx.gov.

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Zumba®'s Back!

If your New Year's resolutions included improving your health or just having more fun, it's time to join Zumba®! The classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 in the 5th grade gymnasium at Huntsville Intermediate School on Highway 190.

Zumba® is a Latin-based aerobic fitness option that's fun for all ages. People of any condition level who can stand and move for fifty minutes should bring water, a hand towel, and dress comfortably. Instructors Penny Joiner and Natalie Reid say this is a fun and high energy activity.

"Turnout was great in January, so we're looking forward to seeing more students willing to come shake it out and have some fun," said Joiner. "Everyone forgets they're working out and just enjoys dancing!"

Participants will be charged \$2 per class or \$20 for 12 classes with the purchase of a punch card.

For more information, contact Recreation Assistant Natalie Reid at 936-294-5725 or nreid@huntsvilletx.gov, or visit the City website at www.huntsvilletx.gov or the City of Huntsville-Recreation Services Facebook page. A full schedule of recreational activities will be available soon.



Stormy Clouds contemplates the flames at the 2014 Shotgun Fred Pirkle BBQ Showdown Kids "Q".

Lots on at the Library!

- Story Time on Wednesday, February 11, at 10:45 a.m. This week's theme is Valentine's. Please join us for songs, stories, and a craft.
- Family Movie Night on Thursday, February 12, at 5:30 p.m., provided by the Texas Children's Health Plan and all movies are rated G or PG. Complimentary popcorn and drinks will be served.
- Kiwanis Club will host a benefit pancake supper on February 13 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. All proceeds benefit the semiannual RIF/KRABS program sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, which provides all area third grade students with a free book.
- *Love of Family Craft and Board Game* afternoon. On February 14. There will be games, crafts, and Valentine's fun from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- READ with the Dogs on February 16. READ with the Dogs is a literacy program that helps children overcome reading anxiety.

Stay up to date with all the events at the library by following their social media pages – on Facebook at [Huntsville Public Library](#) and on Twitter at [@HuntsvilleLib](#). For more information, contact Children's Coordinator Kristi Glasgow at 291-5472.

Kids "Q" at Shotgun Fred Pirkle BBQ Showdown

The Parks and Leisure Department will be assisting with the Kids "Q" for the 2015 Shotgun Fred BBQ Showdown, February 26-28 at the Walker County Fairgrounds.

Kids who want to participate should submit a completed registration form (*attached as the last page of this edition*) and a \$25 entry fee. Registration gets the participant a mini-grill and meat to prepare (may be a hamburger or small barbecue item), and enters them in the judging. Entrants should bring their own spices.

Penny Joiner, Parks and Leisure Administrative Assistant, worked with the event last year and is looking forward to lots of little hands in the mix.

"Last year they made hamburgers, it was lots of fun to see the kids make their own special rubs and spice mixes."

Age groups are 6-11 year-olds and 12-17 year-olds, with an addition this year.

"There will also be a special needs category," Joiner noted, "for all ages, to provide an extra recreational opportunity for them and their families."

"Shotgun" Fred Pirkle was an avid barbecuer and a graduate of SHSU, to which he made generous donations. **The BBQ Showdown offers a \$10,000 prize for the main event and is in part a fundraiser for a scholarship to Sam Houston State University. The Kids "Q" event is held on Saturday, February 28.**

For more information, contact Joiner at 936-294-5708 or pjoiner@huntsvilletx.gov.

Huntsville Police Department's Citizens' Police Academy

The Huntsville Police Department is inviting citizens of Huntsville to participate in the 2015 Citizens' Police Academy, a unique opportunity for participants to learn about police operations firsthand. The CPA is a 13-week program that will meet from 6–9 p.m. at the Huntsville Police Department on Monday nights.

According to HPD Senior Officers Mark Jenkins and Kenneth Posey, the deadline to apply for the program is March 23, and those approved to take part in the program will attend sessions every Monday from April 13 to July 10.

"If you have ever wondered how a Huntsville police officer is trained, how the SWAT Team operates, or what it's like to go on a night-shift ride-along, the Citizens' Police Academy promises to be an engaging, one-of-a-kind experience," Posey said.

"Participants will have the opportunity to see and hear about the overwhelming curriculum recruits must master before becoming part of the HPD.

"Instructors will be real police officers who will take you on accelerated overview of various operations of our department. It is our goal to increase understanding of police work and develop effective partnerships between the Huntsville Police Department and our community."

Participants will hear HPD officers and employees discuss their roles and responsibilities within the department. There will be guest speakers from other criminal justice agencies within Huntsville and Walker County, including juvenile and adult probation and the District Attorney's office. Citizens will tour the County Jail and the Communications Center, ride with a police officer, and explore the Firing Range.

The HPD strives to make this class hands-on and enjoyable while educating the participants about the police department and the local criminal justice system.

According to Jenkins, the ideal candidate for the Citizens' Police

Academy is any local citizen with interest in the department or in law enforcement in general.

"Join us and be part of this important effort – the only investment on your part is three hours of your time for 13 weeks," he said.

"What our participants will learn will not only benefit them. When they share what they've learned with family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers, we believe that will have a significant impact on the Police Department and on community relations."

More information about the Citizens' Police Academy is available on the HPD website at

www.huntsvillepolice.com, in the Community section.

Those interested in applying for this year's CPA should download and complete an application and release and deliver both to the Huntsville Police Department located at 1220 11th Street. The deadline to submit applications is Monday, March 23, 2015.

For questions, please contact Senior Officer Mark Jenkins or Senior Officer Kenneth Posey at 936-291-5480.



Citizenship Preparation Course

The Huntsville Public Library, in conjunction with the Sam Houston State University (SHSU) Law, Engagement, and Politics (LEAP) Center, will present a free five-week Citizenship Preparation Course on Thursdays in April from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., in the Huntsville Public Library Community Room.

The course is designed to prepare immigrants for the U. S. Naturalization Test and will cover the application process, oral interview, and exam. All materials will be provided.

The classes are taught by Mike Yawn, Political Science Professor at SHSU. Space is limited and registration is required, so sign up at the library early.

For more information, questions, or to register for the class, please contact Mary Kokot, at 936-291-5912 or mkokot@huntsvilletx.gov, or Mike Yawn at 936-294-1456.

SPRING into Veggie Planting

Huntsville Public Library is pleased to host the Walker County Master Gardeners' annual spring planting workshop on Friday, February 20, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., in the library's Community Room.

Learn different gardening styles, soil preparation, planting time, fertilizers, watering, drip irrigation, pest control, and how to transform almost anyplace into an overflowing, growing garden.

Door prizes will be awarded and refreshments provided.

Register online for this free workshop at www.MyHuntsvilleLibrary.com.

For questions or additional information, call Denise Tilson at the library 936-291-5471.

WALKER COUNTY
PROUD COMMUNITIES

FREE

20th Annual TRASH BASH

Saturday, March 7, 2015
8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Volunteer to Clean Up YOUR Roadsides and Neighborhoods

FUNDED BY TRINITY RIVER AUTHORITY,
WALKER COUNTY AND CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

FREE trash bags provided by County Commissioners at Precinct 1, 2 & 3, call 936-436-4912; at Precinct 4 in
New Waverly call 936-435-8055 * NO COMMERCIAL HAULERS *

WHERE TO GO and WHAT IS ACCEPTED:

- City of Huntsville Disposal and Recycling Facility, 590 I-45 North: Bagged garbage, appliances, furniture, tires (no farm implement tires, concrete, bricks)
- Try 2 Recycle, 916 15th Street: Aluminum/steel cans, metal appliances, cast iron, newspaper, office paper, cardboard
- Precinct 3 Barn, 2986 Hwy. 19 North: Bagged garbage, appliances, furniture, 10 TIRE LIMIT (no farm implement tires, concrete, bricks)
- Precinct 4 Barn, 9368 Hwy 75 South: Bagged garbage, appliances, furniture, tires (no farm implement tires, concrete, brick)



THE HUNTSVILLE ITEM

JOHNSON

TOWING
&
TRANSPORTATION SERVICE



P2 Emulsions
(254) 829-0330
Asphalt Emulsion RESULTS



2nd Annual Shotgun Fred BBQ Showdown

Kids “Q” BBQ Cook-Off

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Age Divisions: 6yrs – 11yrs _____ 12yrs– 17yrs _____ Special needs (Any age) _____

Entry Fee: \$25.00 Paid: _____

In consideration of your accepting this entry, I the undersigned, intending to be legally bound, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against Walker County Fair Association, Friends of Fred/Shotgun Fred BBQ Showdown Committee, Kansas City Barbecue Society, or any individual or group responsible for the organization or management of Shotgun Fred BBQ Showdown. I hereby grant permission for Shotgun Fred BBQ Showdown Committee and/or agents authorized by them, to use any photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings and any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of Walker County Fair Association, Friends of Fred/Shotgun Fred BBQ Showdown Committee, and the Kansas City Barbecue Society (copies may be requested from the KCBS).

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Make Checks payable to:
Friends of Fred
Email this entry form to benatt41@aol.com
or
mail this form and check to:
Friends of Fred
252 FM 2628, Huntsville, Texas 77320

Contact Penny Joiner @ (936) 294-5708 for more information.