

CITY CONNECTION

Volume 13, Issue 4

February 2017

Calendar

February 2017

- 1 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 2 - Planning Commission -
City Hall at 12:00 p.m.
- 7 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 8 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 15 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 16 - Planning Commission -
City Hall at 5:30 p.m.
- 21 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 22 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste

March 2017

- 1 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 2 - Planning Commission -
City Hall at 12:00 p.m.
- 7 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 8 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 15 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 16 - Planning Commission -
City Hall at 5:30 p.m.
- 21 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 22 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 29 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection

Submit requests for Heavy Trash pick-up before noon on Wednesday, the week prior to pick-up, at 294-5796.

Learn more about
City events at
www.huntsvilletx.gov

Town Creek-Related Closures on 13th Street and 11th Street

The City of Huntsville's Town Creek Drainage Project Phase II is progressing and work in the affected areas is likely to produce delays and detours.

13th Street closure between Avenue M & Sam Houston Avenue

The City of Huntsville's Town Creek Drainage Project Phase II is adding a work area on 13th Street between Avenue M and Sam Houston Avenue. The closure is scheduled to begin the week of February 6, 2017. Drivers are encouraged to take 14th Street as an alternative route.

Intermittent Lane Closures on 11th Street

To ensure the safety of crews working on Avenue N between 10th and 11th Streets, the westbound outside lane of 11th Street will have closures on an intermittent basis as crews work along 11th Street. These closures will be likely for eight weeks beginning the week of February 1, but this closure will not be continuous. The inside lane will remain open during the remainder of construction. Please check the City's social media pages often for more timely updates. (Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleTX/>, Twitter - <https://twitter.com/HuntsvilleTexas>)

Work is continuing along 10th Street between Avenue N and Avenue O, and on Avenue N between 10th and 11th Streets, and is scheduled to be closed through late February.

A detour map for that area is available at <http://tx-huntsville.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/7705>.

7th Annual Friends of the Huntsville Public Library Art Contest

The Huntsville Public Library is hosting its 7th Annual *Friends of the Huntsville Public Library Art Contest* this spring for students aged 5-18 years. The deadline to submit is Wednesday, March 1 and the winners will be announced at the Artwork Unveiling Ceremony on Saturday, March 11.

Come to the library to pick up your entry form and contest rules today! Completed entry form required for eligibility. For more information, please contact Children's Coordinator Rachel McPhail at [936-291-5910](tel:936-291-5910).

Sidewalk Construction

The Texas Department of Transportation is administering the TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) sidewalk construction project in three areas in Huntsville and began work on January 4, 2017. Sidewalk construction will occur in the following locations:

- 1) Sam Houston Avenue from Lake Road to Boettcher Drive along both sides of the street
- 2) Montgomery Road (FM 1374) from IH 45 to Sam Houston Avenue along both sides of the road
- 3) Lake Road from Smither Drive to the Ridgewood West Apartments along the west side only

The TxDOT contractor has scheduled to mobilize multiple construction crews so construction activities will be underway simultaneously in several locations. There will be lane closures on these streets as needed but traffic will be maintained in both directions. The contractor is aiming to complete the sidewalk construction project within six months, well ahead of TxDOT-stipulated period of approximately ten months.

As part of this sidewalk project, reconstruction of driveways and, at certain segments, construction of retaining walls will be completed. At many such locations, right-of-entry permits are needed where the contractor has to work outside the City/TxDOT rights-of-way. TxDOT will work with property owners to obtain rights-of-entry for these projects.

Drivers and pedestrians are encouraged to be aware of changes in construction areas as the projects progress, and to use caution as our community is improved in these locations.

For questions or more information, contact the TxDOT Huntsville Area office at 936-295-3462.



TIRES

City of Huntsville Solid Waste and Recycling Division

is hosting





Tire and Electronics Recycling Day
Saturday, April 1, 2017
9:00am - 12:00pm

Come to the Recycling Drop Off Center located at
 590 IH 45. For information call 936-294-5712



Bring your tires!

- The first 8 car or light truck tires are **FREE!**
- \$2.50 for each additional car or light truck tire
- Semi-truck tires \$14.00
- No off-road tires accepted
- Free disposal of car and small engine batteries

Bring your electronics!

- Laptops/notebooks
- Printers/scanners
- Copiers/projectors
- Plasma Screens/LCD/LED Screens
- Computer Accessories
- Cell Phones
- Rechargeable Batteries







Trash Bash Cancelled for 2017

The annual Trash Bash event hosted by Walker County Proud has been canceled for 2017. The City of Huntsville has been a proud partner of Trash Bash for many years. The City still encourages our neighbors to do your part every day and keep our City clean and litter-free. Please direct questions to the Walker County Proud Organization.

"Winterize" Your Sewer Charge

City of Huntsville residential customers, it is time to "winterize" your sewer charge. Water meter usage for the months of November through February is used to calculate your new sewer average charge for the next year. Consciously reducing your water usage during these months could lower your sewer charge. A method to reduce usage includes limiting or completely eliminating outside watering. The new sewer average charge will be effective with the April billing (due in May).

"We advise residents to limit outdoor watering, such as washing cars, in order to keep water consumption down during winter months," said Jerri Weaver, City of Huntsville Billing and Revenue Manager. "Also, residents should be aware of any water leaks and make sure to have those repaired."

For more information, contact City of Huntsville Utility Billing at [\(936\) 291-5431](tel:9362915431).

Texas Independence Day and General Sam Houston's Birthday Celebration

The Walker County Historical Commission, the Sam Houston Memorial Museum, and the City of Huntsville's Sam Houston Statue and Visitor Center announce the 36th Annual *Texas Independence Day and General Sam Houston's Birthday Celebration* in Huntsville on Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Festivities get under way on March 2 with a coffee and reception from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. at the Gibbs-Powell House Walker County Museum, 1228 11th Street. Around 10:15 a.m., the traditional march to Sam Houston's gravesite at Oakwood Cemetery will assemble at Austin Hall, located on the campus of Sam Houston State University, and proceed to Sam Houston's grave along University Avenue, led by the SHSU ROTC and students.






A special ceremony will take place at 11:00 a.m. to honor General Sam Houston at his gravesite in Oakwood Cemetery (Sam Houston Memorial Drive at 9th Street). This year's featured speaker is former Governor Mark White. The gravesite ceremony will include a "Baptized Texan Ceremony." As featured in the March 2013 issue of *Texas Highways* magazine, this is a way for non-native Texans to burnish their Lone Star credentials. Being "baptized" as a Texan at Sam Houston's gravesite on Texas Independence Day is an event to be experienced. (In case of inclement weather, the gravesite ceremony will be held at Mance Park Middle School located near Oakwood Cemetery.)

Immediately following is a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. at the Gibbs Conference Hall, Katy & E. Don Walker, Sr. Education Center, 1402 19th Street. The day culminates at 2:00 p.m. at the Sam Houston Statue and Visitors Center with a "Toast to Texas" and birthday cake, and a special commemorative award.

The tradition of celebrating March 2 in Huntsville stems from 1889 when students from the Sam Houston Normal Institute would march to General Sam Houston's grave.

"This annual event continued until around 1971. It was almost always done by the student body at Sam Houston and several times the Governor attended," said James Patton of the Walker County Historical Commission. "There was a big celebration in 1936 and again in 1986 for the 150th anniversary of Texas, and [there was] another big event in 1993 for the 200th occasion of General Sam Houston's birthday. It has grown over the years and many of the descendants of General and Margaret L. Houston attend each year. It is always a fun day!"

In 1981, the Walker County Historical Commission began sponsoring March 2 events through a program called Texas Heritage Days. In the last couple of years students from Sam Houston State University, with the help of the ROTC and the History Department, have continued the tradition of marching to Sam Houston's grave.

HUNTSVILLE'S 36TH ANNUAL TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY AND GENERAL SAM HOUSTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION MARCH 2, 2017	
	9:15-10:15 AM <u>Coffee and Reception</u> Gibbs-Powell House- Walker County Museum 1228 11th Street
	11:00 AM <u>Ceremony</u> Oakwood Cemetery- Sam Houston Gravesite Speaker: Former Texas Governor Mark White Sam Houston Memorial Drive (Ave 1) & 9th Street
	<u>Baptized Texan Ceremony</u> During the Gravesite Ceremony at Oakwood Cemetery \$15 T-Shirt and Certificate from Baptism **RSVP Form and Payment Required by February 15th**
	12:30 PM <u>Luncheon</u> W. S. Gibbs Conference Hall Katy & E. Don Walker, Sr. Education Center Sam Houston Memorial Museum 1402 19th Street Lower Level \$20 Luncheon **RSVP Form and Payment Required by February 25th**
	2:00 PM <u>"Toast to Texas" and Birthday Cake</u> Sam Houston Statue and Visitors Center 7600 Highway 75 South
Mail RSVP form for lunch and Baptized Texan T-shirt and Certificate to City of Huntsville Tourism Department, 7600 Hwy 75 South, Huntsville, Texas 77340, checks payable to WCCHC	
**For more information on reservations and payment contact <u>Jamie Matthews</u> City of Huntsville Tourism at jmatthews@huntsvilletx.gov or call 936-291-5931.	

Reservations are required for the "Baptized Texan Ceremony" by February 15 and for the luncheon by February 25, 2017. For more information on reservations and payment please contact Jamie Matthews at jmatthews@huntsvilletx.gov via email or call [936-291-5931](tel:936-291-5931). For more details on the March 2nd schedule of events, visit www.walkercountyhistory.org, www.samhoustonmemorialmuseum.com or www.huntsvilletexas.com.

City of Huntsville Recycling Guidelines

Direct questions to [\(936\) 294-5712](tel:9362945712)

Curbside recycling guidelines:

1. Rinse all plastics and cans to remove residue
2. Plastics 1-7 stamped with number and symbol accepted
3. Flatten items to save room inside of cart
4. Keep cart five (5) feet from all other objects including vehicles
5. Carts must be placed at the curb or street's edge no later than 6:00 a.m. on the day of collection. Carts must be removed from the street's edge by the end of the collection day (*carts cannot be stored at the street's edge*)

Items that cannot be placed in the City cart:

Garbage, food waste, yard waste, loose shredded paper, glass/oil/filters, batteries, cell phones, electronics, Styrofoam, aluminum foil, or plastic bags of any kind.

No plastic wrap, shrink wrap, or bubble wrap. No Styrofoam, even if it has a recycling number and symbol on item.

Recycling Drop-Off Center Information:

The Recycling Center accepts self-hauled recyclable items and is located at 590 I-45 North. The Recycling Center Attendant will be onsite to assist customers from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. Drop-offs can still be made Monday - Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and holiday closings are posted.

Visit www.huntsvillex.gov for curbside recycling schedules, full list of acceptable curbside items, and more recycling information.

Recycle Grease & Antifreeze!

Do you plan on replacing the antifreeze in your vehicle this winter? Have you thought about how to dispose of these and other kinds of liquids, including motor oil, peanut oil, or cooking oil? Don't pour those materials down the drain - **recycle them!**

The City of Huntsville Solid Waste Division offers free, year-round recycling for residential customers for these liquids and other items at the Recycling Drop-Off Center (590 I-45 North) from 7:30 a.m.- 4:45 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Other items, including oil filters, are recycled in specifically marked collection barrels. As they are flammable, neither gasoline nor diesel from lawn equipment or vehicles will be accepted for disposal or recycling.

Due to disposal restrictions, the Solid Waste Division is not able to pick up liquids on a curbside basis. If you have any questions, please call 936-294-5712.



Yard Waste Specifics

Collection Service: 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesday of each month - No call-in required!

Yard waste is classified as leaves, grass, pine needles, yard clippings and small brush, items referred to as "green waste."

The total number of paper compostable-bagged, canned, or bundled yard waste items is limited to twelve (12) per household per collection day. All yard waste materials must be placed within two (2) feet of street's edge no later than 6:00 a.m. on the morning of the scheduled pick-up.

Yard waste such as leaves, grass, pine needles or small clippings must be:

- (1) Bagged in paper compostable bags or placed in personal garbage cans (not to exceed 32 gallons);
- (2) Cannot exceed 50 pounds each;
- (3) City-issued garbage and recycling carts cannot be filled with yard waste.

Tree limbs and brush must be:

- (1) No longer than four (4) feet in length;
- (2) Limbs no larger than four (4) inches in diameter;
- (3) Must be tied securely in bundles which cannot exceed two (2) feet in diameter and can't exceed 50 pounds each.

The following items and locations DO NOT qualify for Yard Waste pick-up:

- (1) Household garbage of any kind;
- (2) Anything other than green waste: NO flower pots, fertilizer, mulch, bags, dirt, potting soil, sand, rock, gravel, etc.
- (3) Commercial businesses or commercially generated yard waste.

Bring your City utility bill showing that you pay for garbage service and dispose of your yard waste at the City Transfer Station free of charge. This excludes commercial customers, yard waste contractors, and any lawn service providers. The customer must be present with their current City garbage bill at the time of disposal.

For more information on yard waste trimming collection services, contact the Solid Waste Services Division at (936) 294-5712.