



OKC NEWS

NOVEMBER 2020

DECEMBER EVENTS

As the COVID-19 (new coronavirus) pandemic continues, check with venues and event organizers for schedule updates.

Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 3-5 A Classic Christmas
- 6 Canterbury Christmas
- 12-20 The Nutcracker: Short & Sweet

Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

- 1-31 Devon Ice Rink

OKC Fairgrounds

statefairparkokc.com • (405) 948-6700

- 5-6 Repticon

Full calendar of events at visitokc.com



CAREER TRAINING & FINANCIAL HELP

Do you need training in a new career field because you lost your job during the pandemic? Are you behind on your bills or worried about eviction because of COVID-19? Community CARES Partners can help. It's a public-private resource center that helps Oklahoma City residents affected by COVID-19 pay rent, utilities and other bills, or get training to start a new career. If you lost your job or income after March 1 because of COVID-19, are behind on your rent, electric, water or gas bills, and live in the Oklahoma City limits, you might qualify. Apply online at okcommunitycares.org or call 211. The application process takes five minutes. Be ready to provide proof you lost your job or are behind on bills, like an eviction notice, unemployment documents, court summons, past due bills or cutoff notices. If you're facing eviction, be sure to show up to your court date. Lawyers from Legal Aid Services will be there to help for free.

Toss the FOG

Don't let a clogged sewer line ruin your holiday. Never pour fats, oils and grease (FOG) down the drain. Here are ways to dispose of FOG:

- Pour cooled cooking oil into a can, bottle or plastic bag. Throw it away.
- Wipe out pots and pans before washing.
- Pour FOG into a can and put it in the freezer. Throw it away once it's full.
- Fill up a can and bring it to Household Hazardous Waste: 1621 S Portland Ave., Tues.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 8:30-11 a.m.

Mobility management

EMBARK has expanded essential transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities to help them safely shelter in place during the pandemic. Applicants age 60 and up and people with disabilities can use EMBARK's Mobility Management Service for access to necessities and medical care. Call (405) 235-RIDE (7433) to learn more or request the short application by mail, or download it at embarkok.com/specialservices.

Text to 911

You can now send a text message to 911 for emergency services in Oklahoma City. It's always best to call if you can, but text if you can't. Open up a new text message, enter 911 as the recipient, and send a short message with the location and the type of emergency. The service is to help people with hearing or speech impairments, or in situations where a voice call is unsafe or impossible. The service is available throughout Oklahoma, Cleveland, Canadian and Logan counties in partnership with the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments. Visit acogok.org/text911 for details.

Adopt a homeless pet

Help the Animal Shelter find a home for every pet during the holiday season by taking advantage of adoption specials and events in December. Dog, puppy, and kitten adoptions are discounted and cat adoptions are free during the Feline Navidad and Hounds for the Holidays event Dec. 12-23. Visit okc.gov/animalwelfare to learn more about adopting pets and Animal Welfare events in December.

PARKS EVENTS

Due to the COVID-19 (new coronavirus) pandemic, we recommend you visit okc.gov/parks and okc.gov/parksignup for the latest details on these events in case of changes.

Will Rogers Gardens Events

3400 NW 36th Street

Holiday Wreath (ages 18+):

Dec. 4 (6-8 p.m.) & Dec. 5 (9-11 a.m.)
\$35 (supplies provided) • okc.gov/parksignup
keyword 33027 (Dec. 4) and 33031 (Dec. 5)

Children's Mini Wreath (all ages): Collect greens and berries to make a mini wreath for your table or door.

Dec. 12 • 10-11 a.m. • \$10/wreath
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 33033

Holiday Centerpiece (ages 18+):

Dec. 17 • 6-8 p.m. • \$25 (supplies provided)
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 33034

Martin Park Nature Center Events

5000 W Memorial Road

Birding Walk (ages 18+):

8-9:30 a.m. Dec. 12 • Free
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 33980

Geminid Meteor Shower (all ages): Enjoy a warm beverage while watching one of the year's most active and visible meteor showers through a telescope.

Dec. 12 • 8-9:30 p.m. • Free
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 32978

Other

Youth Winter Basketball: Boys and girls divisions by age (6-12). Register by Dec. 30 with keyword.

Feb. 13-March 6 • \$60/player, \$450/team
Woodson Gym, 3403 S May Ave.
Foster Center, 614 NE 4th Street
okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 32689

Adult Winter Basketball, (ages 18+):

Register with keyword by Dec. 30 at okc.gov/parksignup.
7-game season (Jan.-March) and single-elimination tournament. Games at Johnnie L. Williams Municipal Gym, 720 NW 8th Street. \$350/team.

Recreational: Men's (32471) • Women's (32469)

Competitive: Men's (32473) • Women's (32474)

Trout Derby: Start trout season with fishing and informational booths. The first 100 kids to complete a course of lessons at the booths get a free fishing rod. No fishing license, permit or event registration needed.

Dec. 5 (Dec. 12 backup date) • 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. • Free
Dolese Youth Park Pond, 5105 NW 50th Street.

Flood information

Contact the Public Works Department for flood information from our community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), including whether a property is in a special flood hazard area or floodway, historical flood information, flood depth data, special flood-related hazards, natural floodplain functions, problems not shown on the FIRM and more. Copies of FEMA elevation certificates of structures built in the floodplain after April 2013 are also available upon request. Call (405) 297-2581 for details. Contact the Action Center at (405) 297-2535 to report a flood or drainage concern, or request advice. An on-site consultation may be required.

Gift for golfers

Frequent Player and Tour of the City ticket packages are sold at your favorite City golf course from December through February. Buy a Frequent Player package and get 10 green fees and half-cart fees for the price of eight, savings of 20%. Buy a Tour of the City package and get eight green fees and half-cart fees to play two rounds at each of our four courses and save 25%. Walking versions also available. Certain restrictions apply. Buy online beginning Dec. 1 at okcgolf.com or call a City course:

Golf Courses

(405) 843-1565 **Lake Hefner**

(405) 691-1727 **Earlywine**

(405) 424-1421 **Lincoln Park**

(405) 677-8874 **Trosper**

COVID-19 updates

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting some City of OKC services. Emergency orders may also affect business operations, events and more. Visit covid19.okc.gov for the duration of the pandemic for the latest local news, guidance and City services updates.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: Thursday, Dec. 24

- Trash, recycling and bulky waste pickup as usual.
- EMBARK bus and OKC Streetcar on regular schedules.
- Closed: City offices, Municipal Court pay window, Animal Shelter, Household Hazardous Waste.

Christmas Day: Friday, Dec. 25

- No trash or recycling pickup. Makeup day Saturday, Dec. 26.
- EMBARK bus service is free (weekend schedule).
- OKC Streetcar is free (10 a.m.- 7 p.m.).
- Closed: City offices, Municipal Court pay window, Animal Shelter, Household Hazardous Waste.

Free EMBARK Fares

Take advantage of free EMBARK bus, OKC Streetcar and Zone 1 ADA Paratransit services on free fare days. The free fare days for December are Christmas Day and New Year's Eve. Visit embarkok.com for more.

River cruises return

Oklahoma River Cruises are on the water again. Try a private charter for a holiday event, family-friendly river tours or cocktail cruises for guests age 21 and up. All of it comes with impeccable service and amazing views of OKC. Each cruiser can comfortably carry up to 24 guests in climate-controlled cabins with audio/visual equipment and Sirius Radio available. River tours are Friday to Sunday, and cocktail cruises are Thursday to Sunday. There are four departure landings for private cruises, and cash or host bar services are available upon request. Catering services are also available through preferred partners. COVID-19 precautions are in place. Call (405) 603-1321 or visit okrivercruises.com for details.

Shop local for holidays

Help strengthen our local economy and invest in your community by shopping online or in person at local Oklahoma City retailers. Shopping locally keeps your money in our local economy, supporting retailers who employ your neighbors. Many local and national retailers with locations in Oklahoma City offer online sales, curbside pickup and more. When shopping locally, your sales tax dollars also help pay for critical services, and shopping in other cities sends that money somewhere else. Police officers, firefighters, the Zoo and homeless pets at Animal Welfare all count on shoppers in Oklahoma City for funding. To learn more about sales tax in OKC, visit okc.gov/tax.