



OKC NEWS

APRIL 2021

MAY EVENTS

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

Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

okcdodgers.com • (405) 218-1000

Visit okcdodgers.com for Dodgers schedule.

Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 1 Blockbuster Broadway!
- 8 American Stories: 'Tis a Gift
- 16 Of Perpetual Solace
- 22 Kitt Wakely and the Symphony of Sinners & Saints

Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

- 8 Flower & Garden Festival
- 21-23 Small Mouth Sounds

OKC Convention Center

okconventioncenter.com • (405) 768-4037

- 27-28 CannaCon

OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

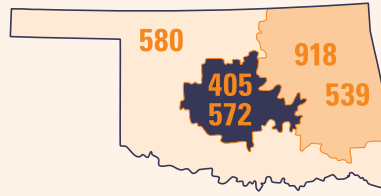
- 14-16 Home & Garden Show
- 19 Career Fair
- 22 Craft Beer Festival
- 22 Bad to the Bone Dog Show

Scissortail Park

scissortailpark.org • (405) 445-6277

- 2 Cinco de Mayo

Full calendar of events at visitokc.com



405 & 572 10-DIGIT DIALING BEGINS SOON

Mandatory 10-digit dialing begins April 24 in parts of Oklahoma currently served by the 405 area code, with the coming addition of the new 572 area code in May. All local phone calls require the area code and the local number as of April 24. Many new local numbers will have the new 572 area code starting May 24, but numbers with the 405 area code won't change. The new area code is needed because the 405 area code is running out of usable phone numbers. Be sure to update any 7-digit numbers stored in your phone with the proper area code. The boundaries of the 405 area code will not change, but both area codes will be used for local calls.

Get news emails

Visit okc.gov/news to sign up for timely news emails and newsletters from the City of Oklahoma City. The new GovDelivery system allows you to subscribe only to the emails you want, and easily manage your subscriptions to get more or fewer emails as your needs change. You can get the latest updates from the City government on important news, emergencies, public safety, special events, parks activities, transit and more. Subscribe at okc.gov/news.

Tornado season

A tornado watch means tornadoes are possible in the next several hours. A tornado warning means that you need to take shelter right away. OKC does not have public tornado shelters. Manufactured houses and mobile homes are unsafe during tornadoes, so find shelter inside a well-constructed building ahead of time. Do not go to a hospital for shelter. The safest place to be is an individual residential storm shelter built to FEMA or ICC 500 standards, or a basement. If you don't have a storm shelter, get to the inner-most room without windows, hallway, or closet on the lowest level of the building. Visit okc.gov/storms for severe weather preparedness information, including how to prepare your family for severe weather and make an emergency kit.

Report potholes

Help us improve our streets by reporting potholes to the Action Center. Provide an accurate address or closest intersection. Potholes form when water seeps into asphalt cracks, then into the roadbed. Repeated freezing and thawing accelerates the process, along with traffic. City street crews repaired more than 66,400 potholes in 2020 at a cost of about \$18 per repair.

Ways to report:

- Online: okc.gov/action
- Email: action.center@okc.gov
- Text to: (405) 252-1053.
- Tweet to @OKCAction
- The OKC Connect smartphone app
- Call: (405) 297-2535

Help clean waterways

Volunteers are needed to clean up trash and debris from creeks, rivers and other waterways in OKC. Help beautify our City and protect our drinking water from pollution. Supplies provided. Organized cleanup days are 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 8, or Friday, May 21. To volunteer or set up your own waterway clean up event, send an email to brooke.vierck@okc.gov or call (405) 297-1797. Volunteers must sign up at least 10 days before a clean-up.

PARKS EVENTS

Horseshoe tournament (ages 50+):

May 8 • 10 a.m. (singles), 1:30 p.m. (doubles)

\$10/player • Register by April 26.

Will Rogers Park, 3201 N Portland Ave.

okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 35991 (singles)

35992 (doubles)

Softball tournament (age divisions 50-59,

60-69 & 70+): Register by May 10.

May 10 • 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. • \$200/team

Stars & Stripes Park, 3701 S Lake Hefner Dr.

okc.gov/parksignup • keyword 35994 (50-59)

36143 (60-69) 36145 (70+)

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Memorial Day: Monday, May 31

- Closed: City offices, Animal Shelter, Household Hazardous Waste, Municipal Court pay window.
- No trash or recycling pickup. Makeup day Wednesday, June 2. Bulky waste pickup not affected.
- EMBARK buses on weekend schedule. OKC Streetcar on regular schedule. Free fares.

HAPPY
MEMORIAL
DAY



Community cats

OKC Animal Welfare's community cat program has increased the live release rate of shelter cats by 30% in the last four years. The program, in partnership with the Central Oklahoma Humane Society, uses staff and volunteers to trap freely-roaming cats in Oklahoma City. The cats are spayed or neutered and returned to the community, where they can live happy lives without breeding. More than 9 out of 10 cats that enter the shelter's care are now either returned to their owners, adopted or transferred to a partner adoption program. The rate was about 2 out of 3 cats in 2016. Visit okc.gov/animalwelfare for details.

Free landfill fay

The City will host a Free Landfill Day for all City water or trash customers from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 1 (corrected). Bring an original, current City water bill, or a copy of an e-bill, to prove residency. Each household can bring one load using a passenger vehicle or truck (up to 1-ton) and one trailer (up to 16 feet). No commercial waste haulers. Participating land-fills include:

- East Oak Landfill – 3201 Mosley Rd. (South side of NE 36th Street east of Sooner Rd.)
- Southeast Landfill – 7001 S Bryant Ave.
- Oklahoma City Landfill – 7600 SW 15th St.
- Northeast Landfill – 2601 N Midwest Blvd. in Spencer (construction and demolition materials only)

Bulky waste rules and regulations apply to free landfill day. Household hazardous waste, tires, oils, car batteries, propane tanks, pool chemicals, electronic waste and appliances containing Freon or other refrigerants are not accepted.

Watering schedule

OKC's odd-even watering schedule is permanent – businesses and residents with odd-numbered addresses can use sprinklers to water lawns and gardens on odd-numbered days, with even-numbered addresses on even-numbered days. It helps conserve our drinking water supply when demand is highest in the summer. The odd-even schedule doesn't apply to hand watering. Visit squeezeeverydrop.com for tips on using water wisely at home. Visit okc.gov/action to find ways to report watering violations to the Action Center.

No home car wash

Think twice before washing vehicles in your driveway or yard. Soap and other cleaning products flow to storm drains, ending up in our creeks, rivers and streams. The chemicals pollute our waterways and can harm aquatic life. Consider a commercial car wash that drains the water into the sewer, where it's treated before re-entering the ecosystem.

Charitable giving

City employees pledged to donate \$520,069 to local charities last year through the Heart of the City charitable giving campaign. The campaign benefits four federations: Allied Arts, Community Health Charities, Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and United Way of Central Oklahoma. Employees directed their giving to more than 100 local nonprofit organizations that make up the four federations.

Permits required

Before you tackle your spring to-do list, be sure to see if what you plan to do requires a permit. Building decks, patios, fences, carports, above- and below-ground swimming pools, new room additions and driveway paving all require City of OKC permits. Most work normally performed by a licensed contractor also requires a permit, which the contractor usually obtains. Visit okc.gov/permits or call (405) 297-2525 for details.

Cocktail cruises

Unwind with a drink and unique views of the Boathouse District, Wheeler Ferris Wheel and an Oklahoma sunset with a cocktail cruise on the Oklahoma River. The cruises depart at 6:30 p.m. Friday to Sunday, with an 8:30 p.m. departure added in May. Under age 21 not allowed in bar area. Adult environment. Bring a credit card for beverages and snacks. Visit okrivercruises.com for details and bookings.

Tax deadline extension

The IRS has extended the income tax filing deadline to June 15. If you're age 25-64 and earned less than \$56,000, you may be eligible for a credit of up to \$6,600 this tax season. You must file your taxes to get the credit, which remains unclaimed for many Oklahoma City residents each year. Visit OKCTaxHelp.org for more information, including self-file and free tax preparation assistance.