



# OKC NEWS

MAY 2021

## JUNE 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

26 Craft Brewers Brew Festival

Visit okcdodgers.com for Dodgers schedule.

### Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

5 German Dexterity & Panache

11-12 Music From Home

### Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

11-20 Bringing Books to Life Children's Garden Festival

12 Carnivorous Plants

17 Zumba

8 Tiny Home Terrariums

### OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

5 Junk Utopia

17-19 Quilt, Craft & Sewing Festival

### Rose State College Hudiburg Chevrolet Center

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

5 Miss Oklahoma USA/Oklahoma Miss Teen USA

### Scissortail Park

scissortailpark.org • (405) 445-6277

25-27 OKC Pride Alliance Pride Fest

Full calendar of events at [visitokc.com](http://visitokc.com)



Oklahoma City's aquatic centers, pools and spraygrounds are opening soon for family-friendly summer fun. Visit [okc.gov/aquatics](http://okc.gov/aquatics) for details.

#### Family Aquatic Centers

- Earlywine Aquatic Center • SW 119th St. and May Ave. • (405)-297-1418
- Will Rogers Aquatic Center • 3201 N Grand Blvd. • (405)-297-1451

#### Hours

- May 29-31; noon-6 p.m.
- June 1-Aug. 8; opens at noon daily. Closes at 7 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat. and 6 p.m. Sun.
- Aug. 14-Sept. 6, noon-6 p.m. weekends and Labor Day
- Opens at 11 a.m. for season pass holders, Mon.-Sat.

#### Admission

- \$5 ages 3-17 & 55+
- \$6 ages 18-54
- \$4 non-swimming observers
- Twilight discount:** \$2 off from 6-9 p.m. Thurs.-Sat. (except non-swimming observers)
- Season passes:** \$45/person, \$145/family of 4 (+\$35 for additional members)

#### Community Pools

- Northeast Pool, 1226 NE 33rd St., (405) 297-1436  
June 1-Aug. 8; 1-6 p.m. Tues.-Sun. Free
- Woodson Pool, 3405 S May Ave., (405) 297-1458  
June 1-Aug. 8; 1-6 p.m. Tues.-Sun. Free
- Foster indoor pool, 614 NE 4th St., (405) 297-1423  
Open year round; 7 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays  
Call for program times. \$2 (ages 3-17 free)

#### Spraygrounds - Free

- May 29-late Sept.; dawn to dusk, weather permitting. Visit [okc.gov/aquatics](http://okc.gov/aquatics) for locations.

## Bulky waste reminder

Your monthly bulky waste pickup day lets you get rid of household items that are too big for your Big Blue trash cart. The first 4 cubic yards (about the size of two refrigerators) are included in your monthly service fee. Customers who set out more than 4 cubic yards may be charged an excess bulky fee on their next utility bill. Bagged waste will not be picked up and needs to be placed inside your trash cart. Make sure your bulky waste pile is clear from obstructions like mailboxes, trees, or vehicles. Do not cover your water meter. For your collection date, check your utility bill, or visit [okcutilities.com](http://okcutilities.com) or [okc.gov/mytrashday](http://okc.gov/mytrashday). Please allow three days for crews to pick up your bulky waste.

## Better Streets, Safer City

More than half of the \$261 million sales tax component of the Better Streets, Safer City program has been allocated to construction so far, with 119 miles of resurfaced streets among highlights of progress in 2020. About 119 miles of streets were resurfaced with the program's sales tax funds. The bond-funded portion of the program includes hundreds of millions of dollars more. The sales tax funding paid for 21 miles of sidewalk construction in 2020, plus about 10 miles of trails and four miles of bike lanes. Construction on sales tax-funded projects is likely to last another two years, with construction on bond-funded projects extending beyond 2027. Visit [okc.gov/BetterSafer](http://okc.gov/BetterSafer) for more.

## PARKS EVENTS

Due to the COVID-19 (new coronavirus) pandemic, visit [okc.gov/parks](http://okc.gov/parks) and [okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) for the latest event details in case of changes.

**Now Hiring!** Seasonal positions in aquatics, athletics and concessions. Visit [okc.gov/jobs](http://okc.gov/jobs) to apply. For more info call: Ryan McClure (*aquatics & concessions*) (405) 297-2205 or Ryan Hill (*athletics*): (405) 297-2477.

**Summer Day Camp (ages 8-14):** Weekly themed camps with recreational activities, crafts, games and field trips. Extended care and multiple children discounts available.

June 1-Aug. 13 • 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. weekdays  
\$135/week  
Foster Recreation Center, 614 NE 4th St.  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 37631

**Adult Indoor Futsal League:** Register by May 28. Visit [teamsideline.com/okc](http://teamsideline.com/okc) or email [ryan.richter@okc.gov](mailto:ryan.richter@okc.gov) for details. Leagues begin June 12-13 • \$400/team  
Woodson Gymnasium, 3403 S May Ave.  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 36932 (men)  
36931 (women)

**Senior Pickleball Tournament (ages 55+):** Register by May 24. Doubles only. Rally scoring. Games to 21. Tournament play, best 2 of 3 games with double elimination.  
June 5 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m. • \$10/player  
Woodson Gymnasium, 3403 S May Ave.  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 35993

**Memory Garden ribbon cutting:** It's the 85th anniversary of the Will Rogers Gardens changing its name from Northwest Park to its current name, honoring one of the most beloved Oklahomans. A memory garden is designed for people with dementia or Alzheimer's disease to share with their family and caregivers.  
June 26 • 10 a.m.  
Will Rogers Gardens, 3400 NW 36th St.

## New Council terms

Newly elected Ward 1 Councilman Bradley Carter and Ward 3 Councilwoman Barbara Young joined re-elected Ward 4 Councilman Todd Stone and Ward 7 Councilwoman Nikki Nice in taking the oath of office April 13 to begin four-year City Council terms. Councilwoman Young and Councilman Carter won the April 6 runoff elections, succeeding Council members who didn't seek re-election. Councilman Stone was re-elected with a majority victory in the Feb. 10 primary election, and Councilwoman Nice was unopposed. The Mayor and one representative from each of the City's eight Wards make up the nine-member City Council, which is nonpartisan. They serve part-time at the head of the City's Council-Manager form of government. The Mayor's annual salary is \$24,000, and Council members' annual salary is \$12,000. Visit [okc.gov/WardMap](http://okc.gov/WardMap) to find out who represents you.

## Wait 'til 8

If your pet is expecting a litter of puppies or kittens this spring, "Wait 'til 8" and help save their lives by keeping them with their mother for eight weeks. Puppies and kittens are more likely to survive their youth if they stay with their mothers for the first six weeks of life, plus an extra two weeks so they've grown enough to be spayed or neutered and placed into a new home. Clean their space regularly and make sure the mother dog or cat is taken care of, and she can raise the newborns more or less on her own for eight weeks. The puppies and kittens need their mothers' help to learn social skills and avoid infections. After eight weeks, they can be evaluated by the Animal Welfare team, spayed or neutered and placed for adoption. Visit [okc.gov/animalwelfare](http://okc.gov/animalwelfare) to see adoptable animals and get tips on responsible pet ownership.

## June is Adopt-a-Cat Month

Animal Welfare is celebrating Adopt-a-Cat Month in June. All month long, fees are waived for adoptions of cats older than 6 months and discounted to \$30 for kitten adoptions. Animal Welfare, 2811 SE 29th Street, is open for adoptions from noon to 5:30 p.m. every day except holidays (closed). Visit [okc.gov/animalwelfare](http://okc.gov/animalwelfare) or call (405) 297-3100 for more information.

## Top bond rating

Moody's Investors Service and S&P Global Ratings have each affirmed the City's top-notch bond rating and stable long-term outlook. In separate reports in March, Moody's affirmed the City's Aaa rating and stable outlook and S&P affirmed its AAA rating and stable outlook. The triple-A ratings are the highest awarded by each agency. It's the 11th year in a row OKC achieved the highest rating. The ratings are used to price bonds that the City sells to fund infrastructure investments. The ratings keep Oklahoma City in an elite group of major American municipalities with the highest possible rating.

## Community policing

OKC's Law Enforcement Policy Task Force and Community Policing Working Group want your feedback on policing in our community. Leave a voicemail or send a text message to (405) 467-0685, or send an email to [voicesofokc@21cpsolutions.com](mailto:voicesofokc@21cpsolutions.com). A consultant, 21CP Solutions, is working with the task force and working group to collect comments and make recommendations for potential policy changes. The City Council and City Manager will consider the recommendations for adoption.

## Fight mosquitoes

Mosquito-borne illnesses are a threat in OKC every spring and summer. The OKC-County Health Department recommends draining standing water on your property so mosquitoes won't breed nearby. To keep mosquitoes away, use insect repellent on clothing and exposed skin. Dress in long sleeves and pants. Staying inside at dusk and dawn also helps, because that's when mosquitoes are around the most. Visit [occhd.org/FightTheBite](http://occhd.org/FightTheBite) for details.

## Free fares

Enjoy free fares on EMBARK buses, the OKC Streetcar and Zone 1 ADA Paratransit on June 18. Visit [embarkok.com](http://embarkok.com) or [okcstreetcar.com](http://okcstreetcar.com) to plan your trip. The streetcar and Zone 1a ADA Paratransit are also free June 22-27 for the Festival of the Arts.

## 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 8:30 p.m. departures on Friday and Saturday. Under age 21 not allowed in bar area. Adult environment. Bring a credit card for beverages and snacks. Visit [okriverscruises.com](http://okriverscruises.com) for details and bookings.