



# OKC NEWS

JUNE 2021

## JULY EVENTS

### Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

okcdodgers.com • (405) 218-1000

2, 4 Postgame fireworks  
Visit [okcdodgers.com](http://okcdodgers.com) for Dodgers schedule.

### Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

Wednesdays, SONIC Summer Movies

### OKC Fairgrounds

okconventioncenter.com | (405) 768-4037

- 9-11 Southwest Street Rod Nationals
- 16-18 Summer Bead & Jewelry Show
- 17-24 Arabian Horse Association Youth Nationals
- 17 Bird Bazaar
- 24 Kidz Expo
- 24 New World Comic Con

### OKC Convention Center

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 9-11 Villain Arts Tattoo Convention
- 18 Bridal Show
- 25 Dino Stroll

### Scissortail Park

scissortailpark.org • (405) 445-6277

17, 37 Live from the Lawn

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

## Rental assistance

Visit [okccp.org](http://okccp.org) to apply for emergency rental and utility payment assistance from Community Cares Partners. Qualifying households affected by the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible. Community Cares Partners is a public-private resource center established to help Oklahomans affected by COVID-19 pay utilities and rent.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS

The best way to enjoy fireworks on July 4 is to attend a public, professional display. Buying, selling or using fireworks in Oklahoma City limits is illegal, including sparklers, snakes, bottle rockets and all other fireworks. The ban applies to all private and public property in Oklahoma City, including parks, lakes and areas along the Oklahoma River. It helps protect our community from house fires and wildfires. The Fire Department, Police Department and Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office have formed a task force to strictly enforce fireworks ordinances on July 4. Violators are subject to a fine of up to \$1,200, and all fireworks will be seized. Professional, public displays have permits from the Fire Marshal.

## Report high grass

Grass and weeds higher than a foot tall violates City code and state law, but you can report it and other code violations to the Action Center at [okc.gov/action](http://okc.gov/action), by calling (405) 297-2535, by texting (405) 252-1053, by email at [action.center@okc.gov](mailto:action.center@okc.gov) or on Twitter at @OKCAction. Code inspectors will visit the reported property and mail a notice to the owner if the grass and weeds are over a foot tall. The owner has 10 working days to mow the yard. If an inspector re-checks the property and it's still in violation, the City will hire a contractor to mow the lawn and charge the property owner.

## New senior center

The transformation of northeast Oklahoma City kicked into higher gear last month, with the official start of construction on the new MAPS 3 Health and Wellness Center at NE 36th Street and Lincoln Boulevard. The 44,810 square-foot senior center is the third of four included in MAPS 3, with a fifth coming as part of MAPS 4. The new center on the northeast side is scheduled to open next year, operated by Langston University in conjunction with the YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City. Two other MAPS 3 Senior Health and Wellness Centers are already up and running, and the fourth is being designed. Visit [okc.gov/maps3](http://okc.gov/maps3) and [okc.gov/maps4](http://okc.gov/maps4) for more.

## 'Path Poems'

OKC residents can enjoy a new public art project bringing poetry to eight local parks. "Path Poems" highlights two new works by M.J. Alexander, an award-winning Oklahoma City author, lyricist and photographer. The project installs two poems commissioned from Alexander and sandblasted into park sidewalks by local fabricator Shane Welch. The steel stencils, created as guides for the sandblasting, are mounted as sculptures in Dolphin Wharton Park and South Rotary Park. Other parks with art are Geraldine Park, Lake Overholser Park near the playground, Pat Murphy Park, Wood-run Park, Britton Park and Melrose Park. Look for other cool art projects at parks around OKC in the years to come.

## Bikewalkokc update

Visit [okc.gov/bikewalkokc](http://okc.gov/bikewalkokc) for a link to information on the planned update this year to bikewalkokc, the comprehensive bike and pedestrian plan adopted in 2018. Elected and appointed officials, local partners and stakeholders, and City staff form an advisory group to participate in the update. Technical edits, corrections and refinements, evaluation of planned projects, identification of new projects, evaluation of the plan's performance measures and preparation for future funding opportunities are among possible updates.



## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

### Independence Day: Sunday, July 4

- Closed: City offices, Animal Shelter, Household Hazardous Waste, Municipal Court pay window.
- EMBARK bus and OKC Streetcar on regular schedules. Free fares.

### Monday, July 5

- Closed: City offices, Household Hazardous Waste, Municipal Court pay window.
- No trash or recycling pickup. Makeup day Wednesday, July 7. Bulky waste pickup not affected.
- EMBARK buses and OKC Streetcar on regular schedules.

## Leash your dog

In OKC, dogs must be leashed at all times outside of their homes (with the exception of dog parks). This is for safety of people and dogs. Dogs have to be confined when in your yard, and on a leash when on a walk, in a park or anywhere else outside that isn't a dog park. Dogs must wear rabies tags at all times, and owners must collect and dispose of pet waste off their own property. Dogs are also not allowed to wade or swim in public waters, including our lakes. Exceptions are at dog parks and occasional dog-only OKC Parks special events.

## Summer pet safety

Make sure your pets stay safe and cool this summer by remembering that if it's too hot for you, it's too hot for them. Bring pets inside when it's hot, and provide them with plenty of shade and water when they're outside.

Walk your pets at cooler times of the day and never leave an animal in a car. Contact Animal Welfare at (405) 297-3100 if you see an animal in distress. Visit [okc.gov/animalwelfare](http://okc.gov/animalwelfare) for more pet safety tips.

## Online alarm permit

Be sure you're getting the most out of your home or business security alarm by getting the permit online that allows for an automatic police response. All security alarm systems in OKC require a permit, which you can buy online at [crywolfservices.com/oklahomacityok](http://crywolfservices.com/oklahomacityok). Police don't investigate automatic alarms from security systems without a permit. You are allowed three false alarms annually. Fines for the fourth and fifth false alarm are \$82 for police and \$135 for fire. The permit is revoked after six false alarms. Of the 50,000 security alarm calls OKC police respond to every year, about 98% are false.

## 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.

### Will Rogers Gardens Events

3400 NW 36th Street

#### Garden tour (all ages):

July 10 • 8-9:30 a.m. • \$5/person  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 39190

**Faerie frolic & gardening (all ages):** See what the faeries have been up to and learn to build your own little faerie garden.

July 17 • 8-10 a.m. • \$25/person (supplies provided)  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 39191

**Children's tree masks (ages 7-12):** Take a brief tour of the arboretum, then make a tree-inspired mask while enjoying hand-churned ice cream.

July 24 • 8-10 a.m. • \$10/kid (supplies provided)  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 39194

**Bonsai in a bottle (ages 7-12):** Make a bonsai terrarium from a recycled bottle. Bring a 2-liter or smaller bottle, other supplies provided.

July 31 • 8-10 a.m. • \$10/kid  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) 8-10 a.m. keyword 39197

### Will Rogers Senior Center Events (ages 50 +) 3501 Pat Murphy Drive

**Woodcarving:** Learn the basics from the OKC Woodcarving group and carve your own masterpiece.  
July 6 • 1-3 p.m. • free  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 36924

**Digital photography:** Stroll through nearby Will Rogers Gardens and get practical hands-on instruction. Bring your camera's instruction manual or CD.  
July 9 • 9-11 a.m. • free  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 36907

**Book club:** Meet each month to discuss a book chosen the previous month. Call (405) 297-1455 for the book listing.  
July 12 • 10:15-11:15 a.m. • free  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 36782

**Brown bag bingo & speaker:** Listen to a guest speaker on issues important to seniors. Bring your own lunch and play bingo for prizes.  
July 12 • 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. • free  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 36728

**45th Infantry Museum:** Take a field trip by van to one of OKC's best museums. Call (405) 297-1455.  
July 20 • 10 a.m. -1 p.m. • free  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 36915

**Drive-in movie (all ages):** Join us at the Will Rogers Family Aquatic Center (3201 N Grand Blvd.) or Earlywine Family Aquatic Center (3101 SW 119th St.) for a movie, swimming and food.  
July 3 • 7:30-10:30 p.m. • normal pool admission  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 38162 (Will Rogers) or 38161 (Earlywine)

**Hooked on fishing (ages 5-15):** Learn basic fishing, casting and knot tying with hands-on instruction and actual fishing time. Rods, reels and bait provided.  
July 10 • 8-10 a.m. • free  
Metro Tech Springlake Campus, 1900 Springlake Dr.  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 37122

**Nerf blast wars (ages 7-12):** Have a nerf-style blast on teams balanced by age group.  
July 17 • 9-11 a.m. • \$25/kid (equipment provided)  
Route 66 Park, 9901 NW 23rd St.  
[okc.gov/parksignup](http://okc.gov/parksignup) • keyword 38950