



OKC NEWS

APRIL 2023

Home exterior maintenance

Does your home need a face lift? Apply for the City's Home Exterior Maintenance Program. Eligible homeowners may repair exterior property maintenance concerns with HUD-funded grants. For details or to apply, contact the Housing Rehabilitation office at (405) 297-2846 or housing.rehab@okc.gov.

Homeowner Qualifications

- Live in OKC limits
- Low-to-moderate income*
- Live in the home as primary residence
- Proof of homeownership (*no rental housing*)
- Property taxes are current
- Property not located in a FEMA floodplain
- Property value cannot exceed HUD's Area Median Value limits for Oklahoma County*

**Income criteria & max property values set annually by HUD.*

Parks improvements

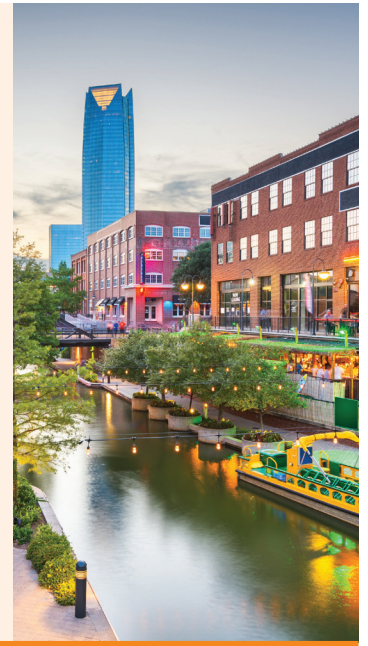
Parks are critical to great neighborhoods and a great city. MAPS 4 includes \$70.2 million to upgrade 105 neighborhood and community parks across OKC. Park improvements will be based on park assessments and standards, in addition to public meetings and survey feedback. Improvements could include anything from trees and playgrounds to shade structures and splashpads. Take the survey and get meeting dates at [MAPS4Parks.com](https://maps4parks.com).

Gorilla Trek

Get closer than ever to gorillas in the jungle with the OKC Zoo's all-new Gorilla Trek Virtual Reality (VR) experience. Gorilla Trek VR takes guests on a virtual journey as they enjoy a 360-degree live-action film with motion platform seating for an unprecedented look at endangered mountain gorillas in Rwanda. Learn more at okczoo.org.

NEW 9PM BRICKTOWN CURFEW

City Council lowered the curfew for Bricktown from 11 p.m. to 9 p.m. for people younger than 18 who are unaccompanied by a guardian or responsible adult. The rule does not affect minors who are at work, or who are going directly to and from work, or who are on their way to or from an event such as a movie or ballgame in Bricktown. If the event ends after 9 p.m. minors are not allowed to hang out in the district unattended. Details at okc.gov/curfew.



Coliseum construction

Construction has begun on the MAPS 3 and 4 OKC Fairgrounds Coliseum. The Jim Norick Arena will continue to host events until the new Coliseum opens in 2025. The 216,000-square-foot Coliseum will feature seating for more than 7,000 people, a lounge, suites, a full-service restaurant and several upscale concession areas. The \$126-million project is funded through MAPS 3, MAPS 4, hotel tax revenue and other sources. Visit okc.gov/maps4 for details.

Paperless Billing

Take the hassle out of paper utility bills by signing up for an online account with our accessible, secure payment portal at okcutilities.com. You'll have access to your account anytime, anywhere. Manage account information; look up trash, recycling, or bulky waste days; monitor monthly water use; report an issue; or sign up for our Help to Others program. You can also sign up for autopay, so you never miss a payment, and access up to 13 months of bills for school enrollment or other purposes. Online bills look exactly like your paper statements, so you won't miss a single detail. Sign up or download the My OKC Utilities App from the Apple Store or Google Play.

Street outreach

City Council approved a one-year contract last month to support a pilot Homeless Street Outreach Program. Mental Health Association Oklahoma will dedicate two street outreach and crisis response teams to the program. Each team is made up of a licensed clinician and two case managers who will help connect those experiencing homelessness to community resources for housing, mental and physical health, recovery programs, employment assistance and other wrap-around services. The teams will also coordinate with the City's Public Safety Departments to provide a non-police response to calls for assistance when requested. The street outreach and crisis response teams expand OKC's community-based service efforts that include homeless outreach and crisis intervention.

Animal Welfare update

2022 proved to be one of the most difficult years for OKC Animal Welfare. The staff took in 1,760 more dogs and cats than in 2021. Despite incredible challenges, they finished the year with an 84% live release rate. 1,354 dogs and cats found forever homes through adoptions. In total, 15,363 dogs and cats were saved by owner reunifications, adoptions and transfers to our community partners.

Tornado season

A tornado watch means tornadoes are possible in the next several hours. A tornado warning means you need to take shelter right away. 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 is in a storm shelter built to FEMA or ICC 500 standards or a basement. If you don't have a storm shelter, get to the innermost room without windows, hallway or closet on the lowest level of the building. Visit okc.gov/storms for preparedness information, including how to make an emergency kit.

Looking for a career?

Look no further than the City of OKC. Visit okc.gov/careers to find a job that's right for you. The City offers competitive pay with annual performance-based adjustments. Benefits include 96 hours vacation leave, 130 hours sick leave and 11 regular holidays per year, a retirement plan, medical center, tuition reimbursement and life, health, dental and vision insurance options.

Clear your warrant

If you or someone you know has a warrant for unpaid OKC tickets for a class "a" offense dated on or before December 31, 2020. If the citation is eligible and can be paid in full, you can clear it at a reduced cost similar to a ticket paid on time. You won't be arrested or go to jail. Call (405) 297-3898 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays to pay your ticket or request a hearing about financial difficulties.

Conserve with a rain barrel

OKC is partnering with the Central Oklahoma Storm Water Alliance to offer discounted rain barrels to encourage water conservation. The 55-gallon barrels are upcycled materials and come with screens to keep critters out. Order one for \$69.50 by April 30 at the link listed below. Scroll down the page to choose your barrel, find upgrades, composters and more. Pick up is from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. May 6 or 13 at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center, 1621 S Portland Ave. For details or to request a printed form, call (405) 297-1797.

upcycle-products.com/ok-programs/ok-city

Register your storm shelter

Is your storm shelter registered and is your contact information up to date with the City? If not, visit okc.gov and click the "register your storm shelter" link under the Action Center icon. The Storm Shelter Registry is a free, voluntary service that allows you to provide information about your storm shelter so police, fire and emergency responders can find you in case of an emergency.

April showers

Flooding is the most common and widespread of all natural disasters. It can happen anywhere and anytime, with devastating results to life and property. Do not drive through flood waters if you can't see the road ahead. One foot of water will float many vehicles and two feet of rushing water can carry them away. Turn Around. Don't Drown.

Mother's Day Cruise

Celebrate mom by taking her on a river cruise. Enjoy bite-sized desserts and mimosas at the cash bar. Tickets are \$30 per person and must be purchased in advance. Book your seats at okrivercruises.com/specialty-cruises. Beginning in May, the Public Transit Ferry service will operate Wednesday - Sunday. Visit okrivercruises.com/schedule to view the full public ferry schedule.

Get City news

Visit okc.gov/news to sign up for timely news emails and newsletters from the City of Oklahoma City. Our 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, transit and more.

Report potholes

Help improve our streets by reporting potholes to the Action Center. Here are five ways to report potholes and other issues in OKC:

online okc.gov/action • **twitter** @okcaction
ph (405) 297-2535 • **text** (405) 252-1053
email action.center@okc.gov

MAY EVENTS *Visit the venue's website for a full calendar listing*

Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

okcdodgers.com • (405) 218-1000

Visit okcdodgers.com for Dodgers schedule.

6 & 13 OSSAA Spring Baseball Championships

16-21 Dodgers vs. Sugar Land

26-27 Savannah Bananas World Tour

30-31 Dodgers vs Reno

Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

5-7 Shorts, OKC Ballet

6 Menopause The Musical, OKC Broadway

13 Oklahoma Stories Clara Luper Centennial, OKCPHIL

19 Tim Allen

24-4 Hamilton, OKC Broadway

Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

12 Guided Gardens Tours

13 OKC Flower and Garden Festival

19 Dancing in the Gardens: Salsa

27 Guided Gardens Tours

Oklahoma City Convention Center

okcconventioncenter.com • (405) 768-4037

9-14 USA Gymnastics Men's and Women's Nationals

OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

6 Cowboys of Color Rodeo

16 Career Fair

20 Budweiser's Custom Car SuperShow Tour

20-21 Oklahoma Gun Shows

26-28 Dog Daze

Paycom Center

paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8700

Visit nba.com/thunder for Thunder schedule

5 Brooks & Dunn

Scissortail Park

scissortailpark.org • (405) 445-6277

5 Cinco de Mayo w/ OKC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

12 Night Market

26 Scissortail Park Concerts: Bluegrass Nights