



OKC NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2023

Floodplain info

Contact Public Works for flood information from our community's Flood Insurance Rate Map, including whether a property is in a Special Flood Hazard Area, which zone and its base flood elevation. Flood Insurance Studies, letters of map changes, mandatory flood insurance requirements, floodplain development regulations and standard operating procedures are available. Copies of FEMA elevation certificates of structures built in the floodplain after April 2013 can also be provided upon request. Call (405) 297-2581 for details.

Clean up OKC waterways

Help beautify OKC and protect our drinking water from pollution by volunteering for the Waterway Clean Sweep Program. Neighborhoods, businesses and individuals can make a difference by working alongside City staff to remove trash from local creeks and rivers. Supplies and on-site training are provided. Clean-up events are scheduled the following



Saturdays from 9 a.m. – noon: Oct. 14, Nov. 4 and Dec. 9. To volunteer, scan the QR code or call (405) 297-1797.

Haunt the River

Put a watery spell on your Halloween. Join Oklahoma River Cruises to Haunt the River. Enjoy the decorated boat, haunted tunes, light snacks and cash bar on board. Cruises are Oct. 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28. Boarding is at 7:45 p.m., and departure is at 8 p.m. at the Exchange Landing, 1503 Exchange Ave. Tickets are \$35 and must be purchased in advance. Must be 21 and over to attend. For more information, visit okrivercruises.com or call (405) 702-7755.



WILLA D. JOHNSON RECREATION CENTER OPENS

Everyone is invited to check out the \$17.5 million state-of-the-art Willa D. Johnson Recreation Center, 909 Fredrick Douglass Ave. It's the first multigenerational recreation center built by the City in more than 40 years and is named after former Ward 7 Councilwoman Johnson. At over 38,000 square feet, the center includes a fitness area, lounge, multipurpose rooms, gym and teaching kitchen. There is also a 3,800-square-foot pool with three lap lanes, current channel and zero-depth beach entry with water playground. The center was funded by the voter-approved Better Streets, Safer City Bond Issue. Hours are 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday - Friday and 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday. Adult memberships range from \$15 - \$25/month, and memberships for youth range from \$10 - \$15/month.

Haunt the Zoo

The OKC Zoo is celebrating 40 years of Haunt the Zoo magic, wild memories and trick-or-treating fun. Presented by News 9, Haunt the Zoo provides a festive setting for families and friends to enjoy a unique, safe trick-or-treating experience surrounded by wildlife. Costumes are encouraged. Haunt the Zoo occurs Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 7-29, with trick-or-treating from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. General Zoo admission or ZOOfriends memberships plus Haunt the Zoo treat bags are required, and must be purchased in advance. Trick-or-treat bags are \$8/bag or \$7/bag for members. Visit okczoo.org to purchase tickets.



Airport parking increase

Beginning Sept. 1, parking rates at Will Rogers World Airport (WRWA) will increase. The increase will fund improvement projects and the future expansion of parking facilities. Rates will increase for long-term surface lots, covered parking and parking garages. Hourly parking will no longer be free for the first hour. Even with the rate increase, WRWA parking costs remain lower than other similarly sized airports.

New Parking Rates

- \$2/hour Hourly (max \$30/day)
- \$15/day Garage
- \$25/day Premium
- \$8/day Long-Term
- \$12/day Covered

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OCTOBER EVENTS

Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

okcdodgers.com • (405) 218-1000

7 OSSAA Class A & B Fall Baseball Championships

Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 3 Story Pirates: The Amazing Adventure Tour*
- 7 Gothic Midnight, OKCPHIL
- 8 La India Yuridia
- 10-15 To Kill A Mockingbird, OKC Broadway
- 17-18 Bluey's Big Play, OKC Broadway
- 22 Modern Masters, Canterbury Voices
- 24 Peppa Pig's Sing-Along Party!*
- 27-29 Hamlet, OKC Ballet

*Presented at Rose State College Hudiburg Center

OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

- 7-14 Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show
- 13-15 Southwest Street Rod Nationals
- 20-22 Braum's An Affair of the Heart
 - 21 Oklahoma Showcase
- 26-18 AQHA World & Select World Championship Shows
- 27-29 The Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Show
 - 28 Festival of Freaks
- 28-29 Oklahoma Gun Shows

Paycom Center

paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8700

- 1 Suicideboy\$
- 12 Odesza
- 13 Jason Aldean
- 16 WWE Raw
- 20 Nitro Circus
- 22 Nate Bargatze
- 26 Luis Miguel

Scissortail Park

scissortailpark.org • (405) 445-6277

- 14 CU in the Park starring Chris Young

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

Reduce watering in the fall

Cooler temperatures mean less stress on grass. Most turf grasses, including Bermuda grass, need less water during fall and winter months, meaning you can reduce watering from 1-2x/week to 1-2x/month. When watering in the winter, temperatures should be 40° or above. Reset your sprinkler system for winter watering to save water. To help your lawn retain moisture and create healthier pathways for roots to grow, consider aerating in the fall. Aerating helps where soil is compacted and allows roots to grow deeper, resulting in healthier, sturdier grass in the spring. For more watering and fall landscape tips, visit [squeezeeverydrop.com](https://www.squeezeeverydrop.com).

Clear your warrant

If you or someone you know has a warrant for unpaid tickets for a class "a" offense dated on or before June 30, 2021, we have good news. If your citation is eligible and can be paid in full, you can reduce your penalty to a cost like a ticket paid on time. You won't be arrested or go to jail. For example, an overdue speeding ticket in warrant status could cost up to \$613 – \$420 for fines, costs and fees, plus \$193 for a failure to appear charge. But it can be resolved for \$155 during the penalty reduction program through Dec. 31, 2023. Call (405) 297-3898 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays to pay your ticket or request a hearing about financial difficulties.

Pumpkinville

Myriad Botanical Gardens presents its 10th annual fall festival "Greetings from Pumpkinville," Oct. 6-22, open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Pumpkinville is the Gardens' largest annual festival and a beloved fall tradition for thousands of families. Visitors will see imaginative displays made of 30,000+ pumpkins, gourds, haystacks and mums. Play games, paint pumpkins, shop local vendors and enjoy special treats and unlimited rides on Mo's Carousel. Admission is \$9/person. Members and kids 2 & under are free. For more info, visit [myriadgardens.org/pumpkinville](https://www.myriadgardens.org/pumpkinville).

\$10,000 hiring bonus

The OKC Police Department is accepting applications for the April 2024 academy. They're now offering a \$10,000 hiring bonus for police officer positions with a \$61,700 starting salary. Apply at [JoinOKCPD.com](https://www.JoinOKCPD.com). Send inquiries to ocpd.recruiting@okc.gov or call (405) 297-1116. Follow them on social media @JoinOKCPD for updates and more info.

Requirements

- U.S. Citizen
- 21-45 years old on first day of the academy
- Valid driver's license (for at least 2 years)
- High School Diploma/GED
- Good moral & ethical character

Fire prevention month

October is Fire Prevention Month, and this year's slogan is, "Cooking safety starts with you." Here are a few cooking safety tips:

- "Watch what you HEAT!" Stay in the kitchen until you're done cooking and all heating equipment is off.
- Never cook if you're tired, have had alcohol or are on meds that make you drowsy.
- Keep anything that can catch fire at least three feet away from the stovetop.
- If you have a small grease fire on the stovetop, smother flames by sliding a lid over the pan. Turn off the burner and allow it to cool completely.
- Never carry a burning skillet outside. You could severely burn yourself or cause the fire to spread.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.
- When in doubt, get out! Close doors behind you to help contain smoke and fire. Call 911 from outside.

