



OKC NEWS

OCTOBER 2023

Miami bound

Winter is about to get warmer as American Airlines grows its footprint at Miami International Airport (MIA) with seven new routes and one brand-new international destination. With 380+ peak-day flights this winter, American is the largest airline at MIA, serving 150 destinations. What does that mean for OKC? American extends its winter schedule for Will Rogers World Airport (OKC) and flies to Miami nonstop daily Dec. 20, 2023, through April 3, 2024. Start planning your winter vacation now at aa.com.

National Recycling Day

Nov. 15 is National Recycling Day. Unfortunately, 31% of items customers put in green recycling carts cannot be recycled and must be sent to a landfill. Reduce contamination in green recycling carts with these tips:

- Do empty, clean and dry jars and bottles.
- Don't bag recyclables. Put all items loose in your cart. Plastic bags are considered contamination and delay the recycling process.
- Don't use your green recycling cart for household, yard waste or construction trash.

If you're not sure how to dispose of an item, visit okc.gov/trash or call Utilities Customer Service at (405) 297-2833.



GREENWAY RIVER TRAIL

The Greenway River Trail, a new four-mile multi-use trail that connects the North Oklahoma River Trail to the Katy Trail, opened in late August. This \$6 million, four-mile trail section began construction in January 2022 and runs along the north shore of the Oklahoma River from Riversport Drive to NE 4th Street. It was funded through the 2007 General Obligation Bond and trail impact fees.

With the addition of this trail section, OKC Parks & Recreation now boasts nearly 100 miles of inner-connected recreational trails. Visit okc.gov/parks to learn more about OKC trails.

Public Safety Partnership

Mayor David Hold recently announced the OKC Public Safety Partnership. This is a continued effort to enhance and refine de-escalation, community engagement and accountability among law-enforcement policies.

The Public Safety Partnership is a collaboration between the Oklahoma City Council, City leaders, law enforcement, community members and other stakeholders working to implement 39 recommendations presented to Council in March 2022. Considerable progress in implementing some of the recommendations has been made in recent months with plans to fulfill even more moving forward. Visit okc.gov/government/okc-public-safety-partnership to learn more.

\$10,000 hiring bonus

The OKC Police Department is accepting applications for the April 2024 academy. A \$10,000 hiring bonus is being offered for police officer positions with a \$61,700 starting salary. Apply today at JoinOKCPD.com. Send questions to ocpd.recruiting@okc.gov or call (405) 297-1116. Follow them on social media at [@JoinOKCPD](https://twitter.com/JoinOKCPD).

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

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 3-4 From Chinatown to La La Land, OKCPHIL
- 5 Joe Bonamassa
- 11 Folk Roots, OKCPHIL
- 17 Elf in Concert
- 19 Colin & Brad: Scared Scriptless
- 26 Cirque Dreams Holiday
- 28 Dirty Dancing in Concert*
- 29 Tommy Emmanuel, CGP*

*presented at Rose State College Hudiburg Center

Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

- 4 Tree for All

OKC Convention Center

okconventioncenter.com • (405) 768-4040

- 2-5 Mistletoe Market
- 4 Platinum Dance

OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

- 4 OKC Bird Bazaar
- 4-5 OKC Renaissance Festival
- 4-5 OKC Train Show
- 10-12 Pool & Spa Show
- 19 Oklahoma Bridal & Wedding Expo

Paycom Center

paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8700

- 1 Thunder vs. Pelicans
- 2 Kevin Gates
- 3 Thunder vs. Warriors
- 6 Thunder vs. Hawks
- 8 Thunder vs. Cavaliers
- 14 Thunder vs. Spurs
- 18-19 Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Glow Party
- 22 Thunder vs. Bulls
- 25 Thunder vs. 76ers
- 30 Thunder vs. Lakers

Full calendar of events at visitokc.com

Tree for All

Join the Myriad Gardens for the seventh annual Tree for All presented by Cox on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. With 900 trees, this will be the Gardens' biggest tree sale yet. The mission is to promote natural beauty and environmental improvement through tree planting, diversifying our green canopy and creating a sustainable and biodiverse landscape. Expert horticulture staff selected trees that thrive in Oklahoma, offering a variety of sizes and characteristics. Each 3-gallon tree is \$20. The first 100 patrons will get a free 1-gallon Eastern Redbud. There will be educational programming, vendors, and valuable information on tree planting and maintenance. For info, visit myriadgardens.org/treeforall/.

Home heat safety

Be warm and safe this winter with these tips:

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment (furnace, fireplace, wood stove, space heaters, etc.).
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Heating equipment and chimneys should be cleaned and inspected yearly by a qualified professional.
- Turn off portable heaters when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying.
- Open the flue when lighting and using the fireplace.
- Never use heaters to dry clothes or warm blankets.

ZOO Safari Lights

The OKC skyline will be all a glow with OKC Zoo Safari Lights presented by OG&E. Safari Lights runs nightly Saturday, November 11 through New Year's Day with drive-through and walk-through experiences from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Open holiday nights including Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. To purchase tickets and make reservations visit okczoo.org/safari-lights.

Winter-ready irrigation

As colder weather approaches, it's crucial to protect your sprinkler or irrigation system. These systems are excellent for maintaining your landscape's health, but can be vulnerable in the winter. These simple steps can help protect your landscaping investment and prevent costly repairs.

- Use heat tape and an insulated pouch or cover to keep your backflow device from being exposed to the elements.
- Insulate outdoor faucets or spigots with foam covering.
- If you have above-ground systems like drip irrigation or hoses, drain the water and disconnect hoses from faucets and store them in a garage or shed for reuse.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Veterans Day, observed Nov. 10

- Closed: City offices, *HHW, Animal Shelter, *Municipal Court pay window.
- Trash collection as usual.
- EMBARK bus and OKC Streetcar: regular fare Nov. 10 and free fare Nov. 11.

Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23

- Closed: City offices, *HHW, Animal Shelter, *Municipal Court pay window.
- No trash or recycling pickup. Makeup day Nov. 25. Bulky waste pickup not affected.
- EMBARK bus on weekend schedule. OKC Streetcar on regular schedule. Free fares for both. Customer Service closed.

Day after Thanksgiving, Nov. 24

- Closed: City offices, *HHW, Animal Shelter, *Municipal Court pay window.
- Trash collection as usual.
- OKC Streetcar is free fare (Downtown in December) regular schedule.

**HHW: Household Hazardous Waste.*

**Pay online at okc.gov. For details about posting bonds over the holiday weekend, visit okc.gov/courts.*