



OKC NEWS

JANUARY 2024

PARKS EVENTS

To register an event, visit okc.gov/parks and select "Browse Programs."

Super Smash Brothers Tournament

Feb. 10 • \$20/player
Will Rogers Senior Center, 3501 Pat Murphy Dr.

Youth Hooked on Fishing Trout Edition

Feb. 10 • Edwards Park, 1515 N Bryant Ave. • Free
Feb. 24 • Route 66 Park, 9901 NW 23rd St. • Free

Winter Classic Senior Basketball Tournament

Feb. 17 • Woodson Gym, 3403 S May Ave. • \$50/team

Greenhouse Inspiration, Design & Construction for Energy Efficiency

Feb. 17 • \$5/person
Will Rogers Gardens, 3400 NW 36th St.



OKC VOTERS APPROVE NEW DOWNTOWN ARENA

Oklahoma City voters approved a penny sales tax to build a new, publicly owned downtown arena last month, securing OKC as home to the Oklahoma City Thunder beyond 2050. The new arena will be funded by a 72-month, one-cent sales tax that will start when the MAPS 4 tax ends and will not increase the sales tax rate. The City agreed to spend a minimum of \$900 million on the arena. The arena will also be paid for with \$70 million in MAPS 4 funding and \$50 million from the Oklahoma City Thunder ownership group. Learn more at okc.gov/arena.

Making strides

Mayor David Holt and the OKC Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns recently recognized three people and three organizations with awards for their work and advocacy for Oklahoma City residents with disabilities. Congratulations to the honorees:

Don Davis Award

Eddie R. Beesley

George Lewis Advocacy Award

Magan Rowan

Public Personnel Employee Award

Brandon "Trey" Lewis

Inclusivity Award

Sooner SUCCESS

Employer of the Year

Mercy Hospital

Pam Henry Media Award

Savannah Station Therapeutic Riding Program

Set it out right

Each week, the City's waste collection crews pick up trash from more than 224,000 households.

Help keep our neighborhoods clean by setting it right:

- Set carts at the curb, not in the street.
- Set carts at the curb no later than 6 a.m. on your collection day.
- For multiple carts, leave at least 3 feet of room between them.
- Set carts at least 5 feet from obstructions like mailboxes, trees, shrubs and cars.
- Bag all leaves and grass clippings.
- Don't set bags or other items outside of carts.
- Make sure cart lids close securely.

Need an extra Big Blue cart? To order one, visit okcutilities.com or call (405) 297-2833. For customers with more than two Big Blue carts, there will be a small monthly fee (per additional cart). For details, visit okc.gov/trash.

City hosts hiring events

The City's hiring events return this year. These events provide an opportunity for job seekers to go through parts of the hiring process, like written testing, interviews, physical exams and drug tests (if needed) on the same day.

In 2023, the City made about 200 conditional job offers through Human Resources-hosted hiring events. And around 200 people were placed on hiring eligibility lists. Applications are always accepted, and upcoming career events can be found at okc.gov/careers.

RAPID NW is here

EMBARC launched the RAPID NW line in December. The first RAPID line has 32 platform stops, stretches 9.5 miles each way and integrates into the EMBARK transit network. The route connects downtown OKC to Classen Boulevard and Northwest Expressway to Meridian. The NW line operates 365 days a year with service at each platform stop every 12-15 minutes during peak service. Call (405) 235-RIDE (7433) or visit rapidbrt.com to plan your trip.

Extreme heat results

Is your neighborhood hotter than nearby neighborhoods or parks in the summer? The Office of Sustainability recently released results from its August heat mapping campaign. The data collected shows the distribution of extreme heat and which parts of the city feel hotter than others. There were recorded temperatures in northwest OKC at nearly 11 degrees hotter than parts of eastern OKC, where large trees are intact. Explore an OKC heat map and learn about the Urban Heat Island effect at okc.gov/extremeheat. Additional analysis, heat perception survey results and tools on how to lower heat risk can also be found online.

Senior Center opens

MAPS 3 celebrated the grand opening of the new Senior Health and Wellness Center at NE 36th Street and Lincoln Boulevard last month. Community Health Centers of Oklahoma operates the center, which provides wellness and social connections for people ages 50 and up. The 44,810-square-foot building features a heated lap and therapy pool, large fitness center, gym, elevated indoor walking/jogging track, classroom space, recreational and sports activities, health clinic and more. For memberships, call (405) 427-3222 or visit wellnesschc.com.

Last chance discounts

Discounted golf packages are being sold at your favorite City golf course through the end of February. Buy a "Frequent Player" package to get ten green fees and half cart fees for the price of eight, saving 20%. Buy a "Tour of the City" package to get eight green fees and half cart fees for the price of six. Use them to play two rounds at each of our four courses and save 25%. Walking versions available. Restrictions apply. Buy online at okcgolf.com or call a City course:

(405) 843-1565 Lake Hefner
(405) 691-1727 Earlywine
(405) 424-1421 Lincoln Park
(405) 677-8874 Trosper

Snow routes

If you must drive while roads are icy this winter, make sure to travel streets along Oklahoma City's snow routes. It's a good idea to chart your course before snow and ice strikes. See the City's interactive snow route map, a regional snow route map and winter driving tips at okc.gov/winter.

Time to winterize

Don't let a hidden outdoor leak take you by surprise. Winterize your home to help prevent freezing pipes.

- Disconnect garden hoses/attachments and cover spigots with foam insulating covers.
- Drain, dry and store your garden hoses inside a garage or storage shed.
- Cover exposed outdoor lines with insulating foam. You can also use the foam on lines in non-heated indoor areas like basements or garages.
- If there is a freeze, open cabinet doors below sinks on exterior walls.

OKC Zoo thanks you

February is Healthcare Workers and Emergency Responders Appreciation Month at the Oklahoma City Zoo. All qualifying guests with a valid work ID or badge will receive free general Zoo admission for themselves and half off general admission for up to four guests on the date of visit in February. The Zoo is closed Feb. 6-7 for winter hours. Healthcare workers and emergency responders can enjoy additional discounts, including 10% off concessions and merchandise and \$10 off any ZOOfriends membership.



FEBRUARY EVENTS

Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 3 Brahms, OKCPHIL
 - 9-11 Giselle, OKC Ballet
 - 10 Soul Purpose*
 - 16-17 Bravo Broadway!, OKCPHIL
 - 21-10 Wicked, OKC Broadway
- *presented at Rose State College Hudiburgh Center

Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

- 3 Yoga
- 10 Lunar New Year Celebration
- 19 Tai Chi
- 24 Guided Garden Tours
- 24 Full Moon Sound Bath

OKC Convention Center

okconventioncenter.com • (405) 768-4040

- 3-4 American Spirit Championships
- 10-11 Varsity Spirit
- 23 The Cheer Tour – Deep South
- 23-25 Inked Nation Tattoo Expo
- 23-25 Spring Remodel and Landscape Show

OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

- 7-11 Prairie Classic Quarter Horse Show
- 23-24 OK State High School Wrestling Championships
- 24 Girls Day Out
- 24-25 Oklahoma Gun Shows
- 27-9 OK State High School Basketball Championships

Paycom Center

paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8700

- 1 TobyMac
- 2 Thunder vs. Hornets
- 3 Tool
- 4 Thunder vs. Raptors
- 8 The Trilogy Tour
- 11 Thunder vs. Kings
- 17-18 Monster Jam
- 22 Thunder vs. Clippers
- 23 Thunder vs. Wizards
- 27 Thunder vs. Rockets

Full calendar of events at visitokc.com