



OKC NEWS

NOVEMBER 2024

PARKS EVENTS

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

Greens Wreath Workshop

Dec. 5 or 6 • \$45
Will Rogers Gardens, 3400 NW 36th St.

Adaptive Holiday Celebration

Dec. 12 • Free
Minnis Lakeview Community Center, 12520 NE 36th St.

Winter Birding for Families

Dec. 14 • Free
Martin Park Nature Park, 5000 W Memorial Rd.

Drawing with Pastels

Dec. 16 • Free • Pete White Health & Wellness Center
4021 S Walker Ave.

Holiday Greens Centerpiece

Dec. 19 • \$35
Will Rogers Gardens, 3400 NW 36th St.

USS Oklahoma City

A long-awaited memorial honoring the legacy of the *USS Oklahoma City* submarine is expected to open in 2026 after the City Council voted to fund improvements to Wiley Post Park. A plaza will showcase the submarine's sail and two dive planes. Other features include a flag plaza and interpretive walls honoring the history and sailors of the submarine. Councilmembers allocated \$4.75 million to improve the north shore of the park, which lies on the banks of the Oklahoma River between South Walker Avenue and South Robinson Avenue. Another \$3.65 million comes from federal pandemic relief funds. Park upgrades will include a variety of projects, including scenic river overlooks, playgrounds and an amphitheater.

2025 GO BOND PROGRAM

SHARE YOUR PRIORITIES

TAKE THE SURVEY

Oklahoma City residents, you can help shape the 2025 General Obligation (GO) bond program. Drop a pin on a map where you want improvements to be made, view the calendar of events – including upcoming workshops – take a survey and learn more at okc.gov/go. GO bonds are the City's most important tool for funding major infrastructure projects like building or rebuilding streets, bridges, parks, police and fire facilities, sidewalks and more.

This GO bond package is for basic needs and critical infrastructure for stability, growth and safety.

Ahead of the fall 2025 election, we are gathering feedback from all over the city. While we can't meet every need across OKC's 621 miles in one GO bond election, we have developed a few tools and resources to help identify priorities in our communities.

Diversion Hub

MAPS 4 broke ground last month on the MAPS 4 Diversion Hub, a \$19 million 35,575-square-foot building that will provide comprehensive support services to more people and families impacted by the criminal legal system. Diversion Hub helps people navigate and exit the system and address needs to prevent future justice contact. The facility is scheduled for completion in 2026. To learn more, visit okc.gov/maps4 and diversionhub.org.

okc.gov/careers

The City of Oklahoma City is proud to provide its employees with the tools they need to be successful and engaged at work. Full-time employees have many learning and development opportunities, competitive benefits, a pension plan, sick leave, paid time off (including 40 hours starting on their first day of employment) and more. Learn more about working at the City and sign up for job alerts at okc.gov/careers.

Bike lane sweeper

Did you know Public Works recently received equipment that helps a dedicated crew clean protected bike lanes? The crew pushes debris toward the bike lane sweeper, which collects dirt, rocks, glass and other items. This street sweeper will increase cyclist safety. Watch for the crew on protected bike lanes throughout the city.

Free Streetcar rides

Experience the magic of Downtown in December with free OKC Streetcar rides every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from Nov. 15 to Jan. 5. Visit downtownindecember.com/streetcar/ to learn more about this beloved annual tradition.

Shop local, OKC

Shop online or in person at OKC retailers to help strengthen our economy and invest in your community. Shopping locally keeps your money here, supporting retailers who employ your neighbors. Learn more about sales tax in OKC at okc.gov/tax.

A lifelong commitment

Owning a pet brings joy and responsibility. Like humans, pets require time, affection and medical care—they depend on you their entire life. By adopting a pet from OKC Animal Welfare, you're giving a loving home to a pet that is already spayed or neutered, micro-chipped and up to date on vaccinations and preventative care. This thoughtful decision means less initial stress and expense, allowing you to focus on the joy of pet ownership.

Give a pet a forever home during these December events. *Follow OKC Animal Welfare on Facebook for event details.*

PetSmart, 7177 SE 29th St.
7, 14 & 28 • Adoptions at PetSmart

OKC Animal Welfare, 2811 SE 29th St.
12-23 • Paw-some Wishes:
A Pet Supply Drive Countdown
• Home for the Holidays Adoption Event
21 • Adoptions with Santa

ZOOfriends

The busy holiday season is ahead, but savvy shoppers know the OKC Zoo and Botanical Garden has the gift for all ages: a ZOOfriends membership. ZOOfriends get free general admission to the OKC Zoo for 12 months including discounts on events like Haunt the Zoo and SAFARI LIGHTS, 10 percent off concessions and non-sale merchandise and more. Buy a membership between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31 to receive a free plush (usually \$24.99). Visit okczoo.org/membership to join.

Need another trash cart?

We've got you covered. While two Big Blue trash carts are included with customers' monthly trash service, sometimes it's not enough. If you need extra room, add an additional cart for less than \$3 per month. Remember, your Big Green cart is for recycling ONLY and should never be used for regular household trash. To order an extra Big Blue cart, visit okcutilities.com, the My OKC Utilities mobile app or call Utilities Customer Service at (405) 297-2833.

Under the hood

Are you a DIY-er when it comes to automotive work? OKC provides a safe option for residents to dispose of products, such as batteries, auto body filler and chrome polish. These items and more may be dropped off at the HHW Collection Center at 1621 S Portland Ave. Show your current OKC water bill as proof of residency to use this quick, simple drive-thru service. The Center is open year-round, Tues.-Fri. 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sat. 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. For a list of accepted items, visit okc.gov/hhw or call (405) 682-7038.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULES

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

- Closed: City offices, *HHW, Animal Shelter, *Municipal Court pay window.
- Trash, recycling and bulky waste pickup not affected.
- EMBARK bus, *RAPID*, and OKC Streetcar operate on regular service. EMBARK customer service reduced to 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Christmas, Dec. 25

- Closed: City offices, *HHW, Animal Shelter, *Municipal Court pay window.
- Trash, recycling and bulky waste pickup not affected.
- Free fare and reduced service for EMBARK bus, *RAPID*, and OKC Streetcar. EMBARK customer service is closed.

**HHW: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center.*

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



DECEMBER EVENTS

Civic Center Music Hall

okcciviccenter.com • (405) 594-8300

- 1 A Drag Queen Christmas
- 6-14 Elf the Musical, Jr.
- 6-7 A Very Merry Pops, OKCPHIL
- 8 Sing We Now of Christmas, Canterbury Voices
- 14 Holiday Magic Winter Revue
- 14-23 The Nutcracker, OKC Ballet

Myriad Botanical Gardens

myriadgardens.org • (405) 445-7080

- 1-30 Myriad & Bright
- 1-31 Devon Ice Rink
- 14 Workshop: Beaded Holiday Earrings
- 28 Herbal Teas for Winter Immunity

OKC Convention Center

okcconventioncenter.com • (405) 768-4040

- 14-15 Anime405
- 21 Trendsetters Winter Dance Competition
- 21-22 United Futsal – Red River Regional

OKC Fairgrounds

okcfairgrounds.com • (405) 948-6700

- 1 Beauty Ball Hair Show
- 7-8 OKC Holiday Fair
- 14-15 OKC Gun Show
- 14-15 Elite Auto Affairs

Paycom Center

paycomcenter.com • (405) 602-8700

- 1 Los Tigres Del Norte
- 2 Justin Timberlake
- 3 Thunder vs. Jazz
- 4 Lindsey Stirling
- 14 Bedlam Men's Basketball
- 23 Thunder vs. Wizards
- 27 Parker McCollum
- 29 Thunder vs. Grizzlies
- 30 Trans-Siberian Orchestra
- 31 Thunder vs. Timberwolves

Full calendar of events at visitokc.com