



01 IT'S HIP TO SNIP

FEBRUARY IS SPAY/NEUTER MONTH

Every day in the United States, 70,000 puppies and kittens are born. Every day in the United States, 10,000 humans are born. These statistics show a main reason why so many animals are in shelters.

In 2018, Tulsa Animal Welfare took in 9,664 dogs and cats. While 6,270 of them went back to their homes, new families or rescue groups, 2,639 were humanely euthanized. You can help decrease the number of animals coming to our shelter by spaying or neutering your pet.

Benefits of spaying or neutering include:

- **Increase chances for longer, healthier lives**
- **Minimize risk of disease in reproductive organs**
- **Reduce aggressive behavior, including dog bites (males)**
- **Lower desire to escape from home in search of a mate**
- **Avoid a citation for having an unsterilized animal in the City of Tulsa. Yes, it's the law in Tulsa to spay or neuter pets.**

Tulsa Animal Welfare does not offer spay/neuter services to the public. Consult a veterinarian or low-cost spay/neuter clinic. For more information, see: www.TulsaAnimalWelfare.org

CITY LIFE

FEBRUARY 2020

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+ PLUS: KEEP FATS, OILS, GREASE OUT OF SEWERS

WWW.CITYOFTULSA.ORG | TULSA311@CITYOFTULSA.ORG | CALL 311

CITY OF Tulsa

A New Kind of Energy.

02 EMERGENCY SIRENS

LEARN WHAT TULSA'S SIRENS MEAN

Being prepared when disaster strikes helps save lives and property, prevent injury and decrease recovery costs. Knowing about warning sirens and understanding the different siren tones can help you take the right protective action.

Tulsa has 102 siren locations in and near the city, with each siren reaching an approximately one-mile radius. The sirens' tones are intended to warn people who are outdoors about severe weather and other civil emergency threats. Tulsa's warning sirens are tested live each Wednesday at noon, weather permitting. The sirens also are tested silently if we are unable to do live tests due to the weather.

THREE TYPES OF SOUNDS

Three-minute "steady, one-note" tone – is activated when the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning including the City of Tulsa. The tone also is activated if the National Weather Service forecasts 80 mph winds within 30 minutes of the City of Tulsa. This tone is steady, but may sound like it is changing due to changes in wind velocity and direction. Upon hearing the tornado warning/high-wind tone, citizens should seek shelter immediately and monitor weather radios and the broadcast media for further information.

Three-minute "high-low" tone – is activated when the National Weather Service issues a flood warning for the City of Tulsa, and/or City of Tulsa hydrologists, in coordination with the Tulsa Area Emergency Management Agency and first responders, have verified that flood waters are escaping creek or river channels and are threatening structures. Upon hearing the flood sirens, citizens should immediately move to higher ground and monitor weather radios and the broadcast media for further information. During any flood or high-water event, motorists should avoid driving through flood waters, and remember to "Turn Around Don't Drown."

Three-minute "waving" tone – is similar to the "wailing" sound made by police and fire vehicles and is used only to warn of nuclear attacks.

To hear what Tulsa's different types of warning sirens sound like, you can visit: www.cityoftulsa.org/sirens



03 TIME FOR CENSUS 2020

LOOK FOR YOUR LETTER IN THE MAIL

Since 1790, every 10 years the United States has counted its population. It is called the Census, and it is required by the Constitution. The Census counts every person living in the United States, both citizens and non-citizens. The Census form does not ask about citizenship status, and all information provided during the Census process is required by law to be kept confidential.

Residents will receive a letter in the mail in about mid-March 2020, notifying them that they can respond to the Census in one of three ways: online, by phone or by mail. Residents who have not responded online or by phone will receive a second letter by mail in April, giving them the opportunity to return a completed Census form in a postage-paid envelope.

Census information determines how many seats in the U.S. House of Representatives are assigned to each state. The Census also helps to determine the district borders for the U.S. Congress, Oklahoma State Legislature, and Tulsa City Council.

Census information also determines how more than \$675 billion in federal funds are spent throughout the United States. In Tulsa, this includes Community Development Block Grants, assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and other similar programs. Local, temporary Census jobs are available; see www.2020census.gov/jobs or call 1-855-JOB-2020.

TRAP THE GREASE

AVOID COSTLY HOME PLUMBING BILLS

Fats, oils, and grease aren't just bad for your arteries; they are bad for the sewers, too. When food scraps are washed down the drain, the fat and grease from the food can build up in your sewer lines, causing raw sewage to back up into homes, businesses, and the environment. Anything with a fat content, including dairy products, salad dressings and cooking oils, can contribute to grease-clogged pipes. Avoid costly home plumbing bills by following these three simple steps:

1. **TRAP** bacon grease or meat drippings in a sealable container and toss in the trash.
2. **SCRAPE** all food scraps in the compost or trash.
3. **WIPE** all greasy, oily, creamy, or buttery food residues from dishes before you wash them.

** Running hot water and soap down the drain does not prevent grease build-up and blockages.*

You also can recycle your liquid cooking oils at the City's Household Pollutant Collection Facility. Call (918) 591-4325 to arrange an appointment. For more information on proper disposal of fats, oils, and grease, visit: www.TrapTheGreaseTulsa.com

Despite all these preventive measures, if you see, hear or smell something you think might be a sewage overflow or backup, report it immediately by calling (918) 586-6999. The City of Tulsa has a customer service employee available around the clock and, if needed, a work crew is available to inspect and take action.



04 BULKY WASTE PICKUP

USE FOR ITEMS TOO LARGE FOR CART

Bulky waste collection is available for large items that do not fit inside a refuse cart. There will be a \$10 fee per 8 cubic yards in volume.

Collected on your primary service day, bulky waste needs to be at the curb by 6 a.m., not within 3 feet of a fence or trash and recycling carts. Place items away from vehicles, water or gas meters, telephone or cable boxes and not under power lines or trees. To schedule a bulky waste pickup, call (918) 596-9777.

ITEMS ACCEPTED:

- Household appliances and furniture, including mattresses and sofas
- Electronics – televisions (limit 4), computers and monitors
- Tree debris less than 4 feet long and 18 inches wide
- Remodeling debris from small, do-it-yourself home projects (must be in containers)
- Glass (MUST be separately contained or taped on both sides)

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

- Automobile parts including batteries
- Liquids, poison, explosives or loose glass
- Remodeling and demolition debris such as shingles, wallboard and lumber