



## 01 FREE LANDFILL DAYS

BRING ITEMS OUT, OCT. 8 AND 9



Tulsa utility customers, now's your chance to rid your home of unwanted clutter and household items that are no longer useful. Take advantage of the City's Free Landfill Days, Oct. 8-9, at the Quarry Landfill, 13740 E. 46th St. N., approximately 1-1/2 miles east of U.S. 169. The landfill will be open from 7 a.m.

to 3 p.m. and will close promptly at 3 p.m.

You must show a current City of Tulsa utility bill or a driver's license with an address within the Tulsa city limits for free admission to the landfill. NOTE: There are two landfills on E. 46th St. N. Please look for the Quarry Waste Management Inc. signs.

No items containing Freon refrigerant will be accepted, such as air conditioners and refrigerators. Also, please note that state-imposed fees for City of Tulsa customers wanting to discard tires are \$2 per tire during free landfill days.

Loads in trucks and trailers must be secured and covered to prevent contents from blowing out onto roadways and creating traffic hazards. The Free Landfill Days event is courtesy of the City of Tulsa and Tulsa Authority for Recovery of Energy (TARE).

# CITY LIFE

SEPTEMBER 2016

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## IN THIS EDITION OF CITY LIFE

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**FREE LANDFILL EVENT**

Take advantage of Free Landfill Days, Oct. 8-9 at the Quarry Landfill.

**02**  
**PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

Make a plan for your home or business in case of floods or other disasters.

**03**  
**SAVE OUR STREAMS**

Never flush medications down toilets: Trace amounts get into our streams.

**04**  
**FROM DRAINS TO CREEKS**

Water quality in creeks depends on storm sewers free of chemicals, debris.

**+ PLUS: DISPOSE OF POLLUTANTS AT CITY FACILITY**

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## 02 PREPAREDNESS IS KEY

PLAN FOR FLOOD OR OTHER DISASTERS

September is National Preparedness Month, a good time to make an emergency plan for your home or business in case of a flood or other disaster. It's wise to assemble an emergency kit and have it accessible if you need to evacuate. For more information about an emergency plan and emergency kit, visit: [www.ready.gov/make-a-plan](http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan) and [www.ready.gov/build-a-kit](http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit)

Be alert when storms approach. Turn on a radio or television and follow news updates. Listen for emergency sirens. In Tulsa, the flood siren will be an alternating high-low tone; the tornado siren will be a steady, one-note tone.

Safety is the most important consideration. Flood waters can rise rapidly, so you should be prepared to evacuate before the water reaches your property. If you're caught in the house by floodwater, move to the second floor or to the roof. Take warm clothing, a flashlight and portable radio with you. Wait for help.

If your property has flooded at least twice within any 10-year period since 1978, resulting in two or more claims of \$1,000 or more from the National Flood Insurance Program, your property is classified as a Repetitive Loss Property. If properties near you have flooded frequently, you may live in a Repetitive Loss Area. To find out if your property is in a floodplain, check maps available at <http://bit.ly/COT-FloodPlain>

City stormwater engineers are available to visit your property and give recommendations on how to improve drainage. They also will recommend that you purchase flood insurance. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), properties in a high-risk flood zone have a 26 percent chance of flooding during the life of a 30-year mortgage. The City of Tulsa has a 40 percent discount for homeowners in a Special Flood Hazard Area on flood insurance, and a 10 percent discount for all other properties.

Sometimes storm damage does not receive a federal disaster declaration and public assistance may not be available. The City of Tulsa has an acquisition program which uses hazard mitigation grant funding from FEMA to purchase repetitive loss properties. For more information, contact the Customer Care Center, (918) 596-2100 or 311.



### 03 SAVE OUR STREAMS

#### NEVER FLUSH MEDS DOWN TOILETS

Proper disposal of unused medications benefits people’s health and the environment. Medications should not be left lying around the house, where family members who find them might misuse them and put themselves at risk of addiction or overdose.

Also, medications should not be flushed down toilets. Our wastewater treatment plants are unable to remove the chemicals found in medications, so trace amounts of these drugs are discharged into local streams. Long-term exposure to these chemicals can harm aquatic wildlife.

A Drug Take Back Event in Tulsa County has been scheduled for Oct. 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Locations were not determined at the time of publication. Check local news for information.

Besides the Drug Take Back Event, options for properly disposing of prescription drugs include:

- **Drop off medications at one of the following stations, any time of the year, Monday through Friday.**
  - Tulsa Police Gilcrease Division, 3436 N. Delaware Ave., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
  - Tulsa Police Mingo Valley Division, 10122 E. 11th St., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
  - Tulsa Police Riverside Division, 7515 S. Riverside Dr., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
  - Tulsa County Sheriff – 303 W. 1st St., 8 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
- **Incineration through the City of Tulsa residential trash service (the grey bin)**

## POLLUTANT DISPOSAL

### TULSANS BRINGING ITEMS TO FACILITY

The City of Tulsa Household Pollutant Collection Facility, 4502 S. Galveston Ave., has been open for eight months and Tulsans are taking advantage of this year-round service to dispose of household pollutants for free. During the first six months of operation, 643 residents brought 41,901 pounds of pollutants to the facility, averaging 65 pounds per customer.

By opening this new facility, Tulsa has taken a proactive approach to help preserve the environment. With usage increasing, the Tulsa Household Pollutant Collection Facility is meeting its goal of discouraging disposal of household pollutants into local streams, storm drains, refuse and recycling systems, and the sanitary sewer. Tulsa’s facility is the first of its kind in northeast Oklahoma, and the third to open in the state (the others are in Oklahoma City and Midwest City).

The permanent facility has replaced two household pollutant collection events that were held in partnership with the M.e.t. each fiscal year. As a result, the City of Tulsa has realized a significant cost savings – the two collection events cost \$280,000 per year, and costs at the permanent facility are estimated at \$175,000 per year.

The Tulsa Household Pollutant Collection Facility is open by appointment two days a week, Wednesday and Saturday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Tulsa residents can call (918) 596-2100 or 311 to schedule an appointment. For more information about the facility, including what items are and are not accepted, visit [www.cityoftulsa.org/resource-recovery](http://www.cityoftulsa.org/resource-recovery)



### 04 PRESERVE OUR CREEKS

#### KEEP SEWERS CLEAR OF DEBRIS/WASTE

The City of Tulsa is committed to keeping our creeks, streams, and watersheds clean. City workers monitor our drainage system for oil/grease, fertilizers, pesticides, and sediment. Crews routinely remove debris from drains/sewers to prevent water from backing up into streets and homes. Littering/dumping yard wastes can cause blockages between scheduled maintenance and *is illegal*.

Do your part to preserve Tulsa creeks’ water quality and prevent flooding:

- **Maintain vehicles to prevent fluid leaks – never dispose of household wastes, including car fluids, pesticides, herbicides or paints in the storm drain. Use the City’s Household Pollutant Collection Facility: call the Customer Care Center, (918) 596-2100.**
- **Follow label instructions to apply pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers properly. Trained Master Gardener program volunteers can answer questions about yard chemical use. Call (918) 746-3701 or visit: [www.tulsamastergardeners.org](http://www.tulsamastergardeners.org)**
- **If you spot a clogged drain or illegal dumping in the stormwater system, contact the Customer Care Center, (918) 596-2100. Or visit [www.cityoftulsa.org](http://www.cityoftulsa.org) and click on the “Report a Problem” link to find the reporting form.**