**01  SAFE DRINKING WATER**

TULSA’S MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE

The City of Tulsa works diligently to deliver safe drinking water to you and your family and joins the American Water Works Association (AWWA) in celebrating Drinking Water Week, May 3 – 9. The water that flows freely through your tap delivers many things no other water can deliver. What do you know about H₂O?

**+ Public Health Protection:** Our first obligation is to provide water that is safe for consumption and protects the public health. In parts of the world without modern water systems, an estimated three million people die every year from preventable waterborne disease, like cholera and dysentery. In contrast, stringent U.S. water regulations require water systems to regularly monitor for more than 100 contaminants and meet water safety/quality standards.

**+ Fire Protection:** A well-maintained water system is critical in protecting our City from the threat of fire. A water system with sufficient water pressure and volume can mean the difference between a manageable fire and an urban inferno. Producing sufficient water for fire protection heavily influences home construction and insurance rates.

**+ Economic Support:** Tap water is critical to the daily operations of existing businesses and the viability of new commercial or residential development. Businesses must consider the quality, availability and dependability of water services when determining the location of manufacturing facilities. The availability of water has a profound effect on job creation.

**+ Quality of Life:** Tap water is also an essential part of our lives – we can hardly imagine a day without it. If the City of Tulsa didn’t have a reliable source of water, how would we wash clothes or dishes, bathe, flush toilets, or water our yards? How would businesses operate? Some measures of a successful society are due to the accessibility of safe water, resulting in low mortality rates, economic diversity, productivity, and public safety.

A service that delivers public health, fire protection, economic development and quality of life is invaluable. In view of the critical needs addressed by water service, tap water is always a bargain. Now you know about H₂O!

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**02  SURPLUS AUCTION**

CITY PROPERTY UP FOR BID

Surplus vehicles, office equipment/furniture, police property-room items and more will be on sale at the City’s surplus property auction, 108 N. Trenton Ave., Saturday, May 2, 9:30 a.m. Prior to the sale, you may preview the merchandise Friday, May 1, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. or Saturday, May 2 at 7:30 a.m.

You can view a listing of merchandise online and register in advance at: www.joepippinauctioneers.com

Take note of these helpful auction tips:

- **Sales are subject to applicable local/state taxes unless a sales tax permit is provided with proof of regular engagement in the re-sale business for items purchased**
- **No one under the age of 16 may be admitted to the City surplus property facility**
- **The Employees Federal Credit Union offers lending services, (918) 582-7573**
- **The City’s Finance Department can answer questions about the auction, (918) 596-7233**
- **Additional details about the event are available at: www.cityoftulsa.org/auction**
**SAFE DIGGING MONTH**

**PIPELINE SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITY**

April is National Safe Digging Month. Before you begin any outdoor projects this spring, consider the following information that can keep you and your neighborhood safe.

As you know, the City of Tulsa provides water, sewer and Stormwater service through a network of underground pipes. Your private water and sewer lines connect to the City’s system. When you combine these piping systems with the electric, natural gas and telecommunications networks, it’s easy to see why utility lines can be damaged if not properly located before digging.

**Call Before You Dig** – please be cautious before you begin any construction project on your property. If you accidentally hit the utility networks buried underground while digging, you could interrupt services that thousands of people depend on, and put yourself in danger as well. Remember, whether you’re planting a tree, installing a deck or sprinkler system, state law requires property owners to call 811 before digging. There’s no charge to you for this service.

The City of Tulsa and other member utilities participate in “Call Okie,” the Oklahoma One-Call System, which locates and marks their underground infrastructure, including pipelines, cables and wires within 48 hours of a request. The City of Tulsa encourages you to be safe and avoid costly repairs: plan ahead and call 811 to locate underground utilities prior to digging. For more information, please visit: [www.callokie.com](http://www.callokie.com)

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**SEWAGE OVERFLOW**

**REPORT BACKUPS/PREVENT BLOCKAGES**

If you see, hear, or smell anything that may be a sewage overflow or backup in your home, call (918) 586-6999. The City’s Sewer Operations and Maintenance Department is available to take your calls around the clock. If needed, a work crew can inspect and take action. When you call, be ready to describe where you see the overflow. Helpful details include an address and a specific location such as a street intersection, backyard, alleyway, garage drain, etc.

To prevent many of these sewer line blockages, never pour fats, oils or grease down the drain. These materials harden and block your sewage lines, causing costly plumbing repairs to your private lines. Fats, oils, and grease also create problems for your neighbors when the blockages occur in the City’s lines. Proper disposal of fats, oils and grease is easy. Just pour them into a coffee can or other durable container and place in your trash.

Other problematic items include disposable wipes (also known as flushable wipes), condoms, and personal hygiene products. Although these products may flush from your toilet, they cause maintenance issues for our sanitary sewer system.

The Water & Sewer Department cleans approximately 800 miles of sanitary sewer lines each year, but we still need your help in preventing sewer overflows. For more details, visit: [www.trapthegreasetulsa.com](http://www.trapthegreasetulsa.com)

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**PREPARE FOR FLOODS**

**KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE: PLAN AHEAD**

With spring comes the chance of floods: your family’s safety is the top priority. Flood waters can rise rapidly, so prepare to evacuate before the water covers your pre-arranged escape route. If a flood is coming, shut off gas/electricity, move valuables from your home to a safe place, and prepare to evacuate.

Never drive through flooded areas; most flood deaths occur in cars. Don’t walk through flowing water. Turn around, don’t drown. Currents can be strong – six inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet. If you’re caught in the house by floodwater, move to a second floor or the roof. Take warm clothing, a flashlight, and a portable radio with you. Wait for help.

Check for structural damage before entering a building. A building permit may be required before making repairs. Turn off outside gas lines. Let the building air out several minutes before entering. Watch for electrical shorts/live wires while turning off the main power switch. Stay away from power lines/electrical wires. The No. 2 flood killer after drowning is electrocution. Electricity can travel through water.

Call the City’s Customer Care Center at (918) 596-2100 to report flooding inside a building.