

Schools Re-Open This Month. Drive With Care

Students return to school in August in Tulsa, Jenks and Union school districts. Motorists should drive safely and follow the laws protecting school children.

City ordinances require drivers to travel 25 miles per hour when the shutter-type school zone signs are open with the words "School-Speed Limit 25" displayed. At other times, posted speed limits are in effect. Punishment for speeding in a school zone includes fines up to \$500 and/or jail terms of up to 30 days.

When driving near a school, motorists also should be on alert for crossing guards and be prepared to stop when children step off of the curb. Failure to obey a crossing guard is a violation of City ordinances. Crossing guards lead Tulsa students across many major streets, but children cross unassisted at other locations. Parents may consider accompanying children or driving them to school if possible. Children should be taught safe pedestrian practices.

Motorists also should be careful when driving near school buses. Students loading or unloading are at risk when drivers ignore red flashing bus lights.

City ordinances require drivers going in both directions to stop for a school bus with red lights flashing. Violators can be fined up to \$500 and/or sentenced to 90 days in jail.

Protecting our children is more than just following the law. It also means paying attention and using common sense. Even if drivers do all the right things, enthusiastic children can forget the rules and dart into a street without warning, running after a ball, a wind-blown paper or a best friend. By being alert, we can all help make sure the trip to and from school is a safe one.

School Starts:
Tulsa: Aug. 20 , 2014 Jenks: Aug. 19, 2014 Union: Aug. 20, 2104



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A Community Publication from the City of Tulsa

911 Is for Emergencies

"This is 9-1-1 – What is Your Emergency?"

9-1-1 Public Safety Telecommunicators perform a vital service to citizens and a variety of fire and law enforcement agencies on a daily basis. Our 9-1-1 Center handles more than one million calls a year – in the Tulsa area alone.

To ensure all 9-1-1 emergency calls are handled efficiently, the caller needs to stay on the line and answer all of the call taker's questions, which are tailored to every situation. Callers need to give the location of the incident, phone numbers, descriptions and what happened to trigger the 9-1-1 call. This information is crucial for operators to have when sending police, fire or medical help.

Calling 9-1-1 By Mistake

If someone accidentally calls 9-1-1 and hangs up, the 9-1-1 call taker must call the number back to ensure the caller isn't experiencing a true emergency. If the caller doesn't answer, then officers will be sent to the location to see if there's a problem. Callers need to stay on the line to say their call was made by accident. That way the 9-1-1 line won't be tied up by non-emergency calls*, which take away from callers with life-threatening emergencies. Citizens can use the following non-emergency numbers to access City of Tulsa services.

*Non-Emergency Numbers

Police: (918) 596-9222

Fire: (918) 596-9977

Customer Care Center: (918) 596-2100

Dead Animal Pickup: (918) 596-9771

Water and Sewer Services: (918) 596-9511



You Can Help Make Cleaner Creeks

Tulsa's storm sewers are designed to divert excess rainwater to creeks that flow into local rivers and creeks.

They are not for disposal of grass clippings, leaves or other yard wastes. It is important to protect the quality and control the quantity of the water flowing into the drainage system.

City workers monitor the system regularly for oil and grease, fertilizers, pesticides, and sediment. Crews routinely remove debris from drains and sewers to prevent water from backing up into streets and homes. Littering and dumping yard wastes and household fluids down storm drains can cause blockages between scheduled maintenance and is illegal.

Here are steps you can take to protect Tulsa creeks and to beautify neighborhoods and reduce flood risks.

- Use a mulching mower or bag grass and leaves instead of blowing them into streets. Yard wastes clog storm drains and deplete oxygen in the water. Fish need oxygen to survive.
- Maintain vehicles to prevent fluid leaks. Don't pour used motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides or other pollutants into storm drains. Contact the Metropolitan Environmental Trust (M.e.t.) at (918) 584-0584, for proper disposal methods and locations.

You can visit the M.e.t.'s website at www.metrecycle.com.

- Apply fertilizers and pesticides properly. Read labels to determine how much to use and when to apply. The Master Gardener program has volunteers trained to answer questions about pesticides and fertilizers. Call the Master Gardener Hotline at (918) 746-3701 or www.tulsamastergardeners.org.
- Pick up litter around your home or business so that it doesn't collect on drain inlets or clog sewer pipes.

If you see someone littering, report the incident to the Oklahoma Litter Hotline, 1-888-5-LITTE If you spot a blocked drain or notice illegal dumping, call the City's Customer Care Center, (918) 596-2100.

Tulsa Garden Center Presents 20th Annual Annual “An Evening of Wine & Roses

The Tulsa Garden Center invites Tulsans to its 20th annual “An Evening of Wine & Roses” fund-raising event on Sept. 26, 2014, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the Tulsa Municipal Rose Garden adjacent to Woodward Park.

Guests will enjoy over 150 different wines from around the world complemented by hors d'oeuvres and desserts from more than 35 Tulsa restaurants and caterers.

Tickets for An Evening of Wine & Roses are \$65 for Tulsa Garden Center members and \$80 for non-members.

Prior to the main event, a private Sponsor Tasting will be held in the Tulsa Garden Center Mansion from 6 to 7:30 pm. Sponsors will savor wines from premium vintners and delicious fare from Tulsa's top chefs. Individual sponsor level tickets are \$130 or 10 tickets for \$1,100. A private table for 10 guests can be reserved for \$1,600.

The main event begins at 7 p.m. in the rose garden.

Reservations are required and space is limited at the event. The reservation deadline is Sept. 19. Attendees must be 21 years or older. Proof of age is required.

Proceeds from An Evening of Wine & Roses benefit Tulsa Garden Center.

Reservations can be made by calling the Garden Center at (918) 746 5125. More details about the event can be seen online at:

www.tulsagardencenter.com.

Beware of Summer Heat!

Tulsa's government entities and social service agencies work together each year to monitor heat conditions and minimize effects on citizens, but it is important for all Tulsans to know how to modify strenuous activities and cope with the heat.

People of all ages who work or play outdoors in Oklahoma summers are vulnerable to heat-related illnesses. Even in-shape athletes can fall victim to the heat. Children especially can be affected, warns the Emergency Medical Service Authority (EMSA).

EMSA cautions parents, caretakers and athletic coaches to take the heat seriously and understand that Oklahoma's hot temperatures can be deadly. Vigorous outdoor activities, including football practices and similar activities, should be interspersed with frequent cooling breaks and participants should drink water or sports drinks.

EMSA urges parents, coaches and children to CALL 9-1-1 if they see the symptoms of heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Supervisors and workers in hot environments should also watch for symptoms and call for medical assistance if needed.