

# 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. 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's creeks. These actions also will beautify neighborhoods and reduce flood risks.

- 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 for proper disposal methods and locations at (918) 584-0584 or [www.metrecycle.com](http://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](http://www.tulsamastergardeners.org).

- Use a mulching mower or bag grass and leaves instead of blowing them into streets. Yard wastes can clog storm drains and can reduce the amount of oxygen in the water. Fish need oxygen to survive.

- 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-LITTER**.

- If you spot a blocked drain or notice illegal dumping, call the City's Customer Care Center at **(918) 596-2100**. Putting foreign substances into the storm sewer is a violation of City ordinance.

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**City offices  
closed for  
holidays in  
November,  
December,  
New Year's Day**

The City of Tulsa's offices will be closed for Veterans Day and the Thanksgiving holidays in November and at Christmas in December.

Emergency responders, including police and firefighters, will be available as always on those dates. Closings include:

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014 -- Veterans Day

Thursday & Friday, Nov. 27-28, 2014 -- Thanksgiving

Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 24-25, 2014 -- Christmas

Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015 -- New Year's

Many questions can be answered, problems reported, utility bills paid, etc., online at [www.cityoftulsa.org](http://www.cityoftulsa.org).

## Bring Household Pollutants for Disposal at Expo Square

Tulsans can dispose of household chemicals and toxic hazards in a safe manner at the upcoming Household Pollutant Collection Event.

The two-day event is open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1 and Sunday, Nov. 2, 2014, at the Tulsa Fairgrounds (Expo Square), Gate 7. It is co-hosted by 11 local government entities, including the City of Tulsa and the Metropolitan Environmental Trust (M.e.t.).

To deliver items at the event, enter the fairgrounds from 15th Street through Gate 7 for easy access. This event is free to Tulsa-area residents.

Accepted items include household cleaners and toxins, yard-care products and pesticides, acids, caustics, thinners, household flammable liquids, all fluorescent light bulbs, firearms ammunition (.50 caliber or smaller), smoke alarms, thermostats, oil, antifreeze and oil-based, aerosol, and hobby paints. Also accepted are prescription medications. Items brought to this event will be disposed of in a safe, environmentally responsible manner.

Items NOT accepted at the event include latex paint, commercial waste, radioactive waste, pressurized gas cylinders, water reactive chemicals, explosives and dioxins. Latex paint can be disposed of safely by opening the container and allowing the paint to dry completely. Refuse collectors will accept dried latex paint cans in plastic trash bags in refuse containers.

Transport hazardous waste to the event in the trunk of a car or bed of a pickup truck. Those bringing chemicals for disposal should wear gloves while handling and transporting the materials. Workers will remove items from vehicles at the event.

For a complete list of items accepted at the fairgrounds Household Pollutant Collection Event, visit [www.metrecycle.com](http://www.metrecycle.com) or call (918) 584-0584.

# City Surplus Auction is Saturday, Nov. 1

The City of Tulsa will hold its surplus property auction on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2014. The sale will be at the City's surplus property facility, 108 N. Trenton Ave.

The auction will start at 9:30 a.m. Merchandise will be available for viewing on Friday, Oct. 31, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The site will open at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday for viewing merchandise before the sale begins.

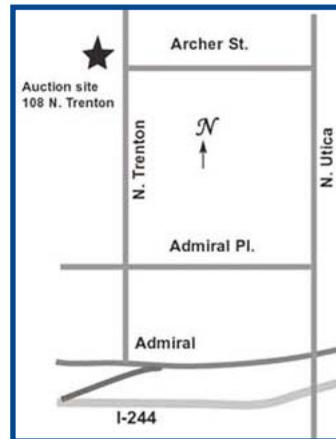
Bidders can register in advance and view merchandise online prior to the sale by visiting: <http://www.joepippinauctioneers.com>

Surplus vehicles, office equipment and furniture, miscellaneous equipment and police property-room items will be included in the sale. All sales are "as is." It is the bidder's responsibility to assess condition of merchandise.

Three auctioneers may be selling simultaneously, so bidders wanting to bid on multiple items should bring a partner/proxy.

Cash, Mastercards and Visa cards are accepted. Checks can be accepted only if accompanied by a letter of guaranty from the financial institution on which the check is drawn. Payment is required in full within one hour after the auction ends. Sales are subject to applicable local and state taxes unless a sales tax permit is provided with proof of regular engagement in the re-sale business for items purchased. An Oklahoma Tax Commission auditor may be present.

No one under age 16 may be admitted at the City surplus property facility. Lending services are available by Employees Federal Credit Union, (918) 582-7573. Questions about the auction can be directed to the City of Tulsa's Finance Department at **(918) 596-7233**.



A Community Publication from the City of Tulsa

## November Utility Bills Reflect Water & Sewer Rate Changes

Rising operating costs and replacing aging infrastructure, as well as an increase in the cost of emergency medical services, are the reasons Tulsa utility customers will see an average increase of 8.7 percent on their City of Tulsa utility bills beginning in November.

The Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority proposed, and the Mayor and City Council approved, increases of 7 percent for water and 9.75 percent for sewer services as a part of the Fiscal Year 2015 budget. Also approved was a 9 percent increase in the stormwater rate.



The cost of emergency medical services, which subscribers pay on their utility bills, is rising from \$3.64 per month to \$5.45. That increase actually took place in September and is reflected on the October 2014 bills. The fee pays for many of the charges for ambulance and emergency medical services, not otherwise covered by insurance, provided by first responders from the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) and the Tulsa Fire Department.

Below are examples of the effect on the City of Tulsa monthly utility bills for single-family residential customers with low, average and high use levels. These numbers reflect all of the increases in water, sewer, stormwater and emergency medical service charges on the bills.

| Low Usage (3,000 gallons)             |          | Average Usage (7,500 gallons)         |          | High Usage (12,000 gallons)           |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Old Rate                              | New Rate | Old Rate                              | New Rate | Old Rate                              | New Rate |
| \$54.13                               | \$58.91  | \$83.86                               | \$91.13  | \$113.59                              | \$123.35 |
| Increase of \$4.78 per month or 8.8%. |          | Increase of \$7.27 per month or 8.7%. |          | Increase of \$9.76 per month or 8.6%. |          |

Note: Examples reflect standard solid waste service of one 96-gallon refuse cart collected once weekly at \$15.52 per month.



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