

01 PREPAREDNESS IS KEY

PLAN FOR FLOODS OR OTHER DISASTERS

During National Preparedness Month in September, remember to plan for your household and business. It's wise to assemble an emergency kit and have it ready if you need to evacuate. For more information about an emergency plan and emergency kit, visit: www.ready.gov/make-a-plan and www.ready.gov/build-a-kit

Be alert when storms approach. Access local news stations and follow weather updates. Download the Tulsa Ready app and listen for emergency sirens.


The flood siren will be an alternating high-low tone; the tornado siren will be a steady, one-note tone. The flood siren is activated when the National Weather Service issues a flood warning for Tulsa and/or flooding of creeks or river channels has been verified and structures are threatened. The tornado siren is activated when the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning including Tulsa, and/or the National Weather Service forecasts 80-mile-per-hour winds within 30 minutes of Tulsa.

Upon hearing the flood or tornado siren, residents should immediately move to higher ground in case of flood or go to their best available shelter from a tornado. Then continue to monitor weather radios and the broadcast media for further information.

When seeking shelter during severe weather, avoid flood prone areas. During any flood or high-water event, motorists should avoid driving through flood waters, and remember to "Turn Around, Don't Drown."

Know your risk of flooding. Check maps available at maps.cityoftulsa.org to find out if your home or business is in a floodplain. Also visit www.floodsmart.gov to find out what you can do about your flood risk. Buy a flood insurance policy. Property owners and renters in the city limits of Tulsa are eligible for a 45% discount on flood insurance.

City stormwater engineers are available to visit your property and give recommendations on how to improve drainage. They also will explain why you need flood insurance. For more information, contact the Customer Care Center at 311 or (918) 596-7777 (outside city limits).



CITY LIFE


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03 POLLUTANT DISPOSAL Bring chemicals to the Tulsa Household Pollutant Collection Facility.	04 TRAP THE GREASE Learn how to keep fats, oils and grease out of the sewers.

+ PLUS: SAFE WAYS TO DISPOSE OF YOUR POOL WATER

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





02 SAFE MEDICINE DISPOSAL

NEVER FLUSH MEDICINE DOWN TOILETS

Proper disposal of unused medications benefits your health and the environment. Medications should not be left around the house, available for possible misuse by family members.

It is best to properly dispose of medications and not flush them down toilets. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove chemicals found in many medications, and these chemicals could discharge into streams if medications aren't disposed of properly. Long-term exposure to these chemicals can harm aquatic wildlife and our water.

Tulsa participates in two National Drug Take-Back Events each year in the spring and fall. The next event will be in Fall 2025.

Citizens can also take unwanted prescription drugs to any of the three Tulsa Police Division headquarters and to the Tulsa County Sheriff's office year-round, Monday through Friday, except for holidays. Locations and hours include:

- **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. First St., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

03 POLLUTANT DISPOSAL

BRING CHEMICALS TO CITY FACILITY

Ridding your home of chemicals and potentially hazardous items creates a safer home environment. Many of the chemicals we have in our households could be considered hazardous if used or disposed of in an improper way. The City of Tulsa Household Pollutant Collection Facility at 4502 S. Galveston Ave. is open for disposal of these items Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8 – 11:30 a.m. and noon – 4:30 p.m., excluding City holidays.

Tulsa residents may dispose of pollutants free at the facility. Non-Tulsa residents served by the Metropolitan Environmental Trust can get vouchers to dispose of up to 45 pounds before fees apply; call (918) 584-0584. A Swap Shop at the facility is open for customers to take up to five items.

The Household Pollutant Collection Facility is open for residential customers but not businesses disposing of commercial wastes. For more information about household pollutant disposal in Tulsa, see www.cityoftulsa.org/HPCF

Accepted Items:

- Oil-based paints and thinners
- Latex paint
- Automotive fluids, flammable liquids
- Fluorescent and CFL lightbulbs
- Cooking oil/grease
- Aerosols, household cleaners
- Household and car batteries
- Pool and lawn chemicals
- Small electronics, mercury thermostats

Non-Accepted Items:

- Large electronics (TVs, monitors, computers)
- Industrial or commercial waste
- Medical or biomedical waste (syringes, needles)
- Asbestos
- Food or organic waste
- Radioactive material
- Ammunition, explosives
- Tires
- Unknown materials or substances

SUMMER'S LAST DAYS

TIME TO DRAIN THE SWIMMING POOL

Summer weather in Oklahoma often stretches past Labor Day for a few weeks in September. When summer does come to an end, many Tulsa residents will empty their pools.

When draining a swimming pool, there are best management practices to follow for taking care of Tulsa's environment. Pool water should not be discharged to the storm drain, as the water may contain harmful chemicals that are toxic to our environment and wildlife.

Remember: storm drains flow to Tulsa's creeks and rivers, where fish and other creatures live. Pool water can be toxic if ingested, and if it is poured into the stormwater drainage system, it will get into neighboring creeks and can kill off aquatic animals.

Safe ways to dispose of pool water include draining it on your lawn and letting it soak into the grass or discharging it down the sanitary sewer system. After you have finished your last chemical treatment for the pool this season, wait at least 72 hours before disposing of pool water either on your lawn or in the sanitary sewer system. By waiting to dispose of pool chemicals, you lessen the risk of adding more chemicals onto your lawn or in the sewer system.

According to City ordinance, anything that is not rainwater is illegal to discharge into the storm drainage system. If you see someone illegally dumping into a storm drain, please calling 311 or sending an email to Tulsa311@cityoftulsa.org to report it.



04 TRAP THE GREASE

AVOID COSTLY HOME PLUMBING BILLS

Fats, oils, and grease aren't just bad for your arteries – they're bad for sewers, too. When food scraps are washed down the drain, grease from food can build up in sewer lines, causing raw sewage to back up into homes, businesses, and the environment. 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.

Liquid cooking oils can be recycled at the City's Household Pollutant Collection Facility, 4502 S. Galveston Ave. It is open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8 to 11:30 a.m. and noon to 4:30 p.m. 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.