



## 01 DAM/LEVEE FAILURES

A POTENTIAL HAZARD TO SOME AREAS

Some low-lying areas of Tulsa are subject to flooding from failures in dams or levees. If you live or work in these inundation areas, or routinely drive through them, you should be aware of potential hazards and plan the best evacuation routes to keep your family safe. If you encounter a flooded road, turn around; don't drown. It's wise to make an emergency plan and emergency kit. See [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)

Remain vigilant during inclement weather. Tune in to the local news media for information about potential flooding or dangers from dam or levee failures. Pay attention to weather watches and warnings. Know your risk of flooding. For a map of these inundation areas and other regulatory floodplains, visit: <http://maps.cityoftulsa.org/floodplains>

Whether or not you live or own property in a floodplain, flood insurance is available to all Tulsans, and is required if you have a federally-backed mortgage on a property in the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) floodplain. Flood insurance can be purchased through the same insurance agent that handles your basic homeowner's insurance. Homeowner's insurance itself does not cover losses resulting from flooding.

If you have questions about flood insurance, contact City of Tulsa Floodplain Administrator Michael Ling at (918) 596-7285.



# CITY LIFE

MARCH 2018

## IN THIS EDITION OF CITY LIFE

01

### DAM-LEVEE FAILURES

Know where flooding could occur. Flood insurance can protect your property.

02

### TULSA GETS GROWING

Find plants, gardening supplies and more at SpringFest, April 13-14.

03

### TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

More Tulsans are disposing of household pollutants at this City facility.

04

### DUMPSTERS DELIVERED

Registered neighborhood associations can request dumpsters for cleanups.

+ PLUS: PREVENT BACKFLOWS IN OUR WATER SYSTEM

[WWW.CITYOFTULSA.ORG](http://WWW.CITYOFTULSA.ORG) | [TULSA311@CITYOFTULSA.ORG](mailto:TULSA311@CITYOFTULSA.ORG) | CALL 311



## 02 SPRINGFEST 2018

GARDEN MARKET AND FESTIVAL

SpringFest Garden Market and Festival is a must visit for all things gardening, and admission is free. The event will be held April 13 and 14, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Tulsa Garden Center in Woodward Park, 2435 S. Peoria Ave. SpringFest will feature a large variety of plants, gardening information, garden art and other items, a kids' zone, and food and fun for the whole family.

Local plant nurseries will offer the newest and best plant selections for sale, while expert gardeners – including Linnaeus Gardeners and Tulsa Master Gardeners – will be available to answer questions. The kids' zone will offer face painting, balloons, the Adopt-A-Pet van from SPCA, the Reading Van from Tulsa City-County Library and age-appropriate gardening activities.

While at SpringFest, be sure to visit the beautiful Linnaeus Teaching Garden, a state-of-the-art demonstration garden in Woodward Park, offering an array of ideas for the home gardener. The popular Linnaeus Teaching Garden plant tent will be full of plants for sale from the gardens of Linnaeus Gardeners and other friends of the Tulsa Garden Center.

Proceeds from SpringFest Garden Market and Festival will benefit Tulsa Garden Center's educational programs. For more information, please call (918) 576-5154 or visit: [www.tulsagardencent.com](http://www.tulsagardencent.com)

## 03 CHEMICAL DISPOSAL

POLLUTANT FACILITY OPEN TWO YEARS

More Tulsans are taking advantage of the City's year-round disposal option for household chemicals – the Household Pollutant Collection Facility at 4502 S. Galveston Ave. – open every Wednesday and Saturday by appointment and for special collection events without an appointment. Disposing of items at this facility helps to keep pollutants out of creeks, streams, storm drains, refuse and recycling systems and the sanitary sewer. For more information about the facility and the list of accepted/non-accepted items, visit: [www.cityoftulsa.org/resource-recovery](http://www.cityoftulsa.org/resource-recovery)

The Household Pollutant Collection Facility celebrated its two-year anniversary in January 2018. In its second year of operation, the facility collected 104,052 pounds of household pollutants: a 16 percent increase over the previous year. Also during the second year, a total of 2,031 people used the facility, for a 53 percent increase from the previous year. In 2017, the facility won the Green Government Award from the Metropolitan Environmental Trust and was a finalist for the Keep Oklahoma Beautiful Government Program Award.

Also at the Household Pollutant Collection Facility, more customers are using the "Swap Shop," where they can take up to five new or lightly used household products for free. This service allows customers to use products for their intended purpose and saves disposal costs at the facility. During the past year, 86 customers used the Swap Shop and took 1,450 pounds of material. Currently, over 1,000 items are available in the Swap Shop – no drop off required.

On March 24 and 25, the facility will hold a special collection event from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., when Tulsans can bring items not usually accepted at the facility. These include medicines (not medical waste), ammunition, tires, and electronic waste (small items only – no refrigerators, water heaters, washers/dryers). Tube televisions are subject to a \$21 fee and computer monitors will have a \$10 fee. No appointment is necessary for dropping off items at the special collection event.

Otherwise, the Household Pollutant Collection Facility is open every Wednesday and Saturday, except for City holidays, by appointment from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tulsa residents can make an appointment by calling (918) 591-4325.

## BACKFLOW PREVENTION

PROTECT OUR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

The City's Water & Sewer Department is dedicated to ensuring the water delivered to your home is safe to drink. However, situations outside of the City's control may jeopardize the quality of your drinking water by allowing backflow into the public water system.

**Backflow** is the reverse flow of water from a plumbing system into the public water system.

**Cross-connections** can occur between the public water system and anything else allowing the **backflow** of foreign materials into the system.

Follow these simple precautions to help protect our drinking water system from backflow events:

- **Never submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, sinks or other containers.**
- **Always keep hose ends clear of possible contaminants. An air gap of 2 inches or more between the hose end and the receptacle is the safest and simplest way to prevent backflow.**
- **Don't tamper with the temperature and pressure valves on hot water tanks. These valves will discharge when there is thermal expansion in the tank. Install a thermal expansion tank if necessary.**
- **Buy and install inexpensive backflow-prevention devices called vacuum breakers for all faucets in your home.**
- **Don't use garden hose spray attachments to apply chemicals without using a vacuum breaker at the faucet. Lawn or cleaning chemicals are toxic and may be fatal if ingested.**



## 04 DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE

REQUEST FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUPS

The City of Tulsa's Neighborhood Dumpster Program is a service available to registered neighborhood associations to perform neighborhood clean-up activities. Participating groups can request two 30-yard containers every six months to dispose of eligible household items.

Dumpsters are for use at residential sites and cannot be used for commercial purposes (for example, to clean out rental properties). Certain items cannot be placed in the dumpsters, such as limbs and other tree debris, grass clippings, Freon bearing appliances, car parts or tires, air conditioners, roofing materials, whole buildings, sheds or garages.

Do not overfill dumpsters. Dumpsters should be no more than three-fourths (3/4) full, so that they are easily transported to the landfill. Items cannot be placed on the ground around the dumpster.

Please note: During inclement weather, employees assigned to the Neighborhood Dumpster Program will be reassigned to work the weather event. In this case, drop-off/pick-up dates may be adjusted.

If your neighborhood association is interested in participating in this program, the neighborhood leader may call 311.