



CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

“Celebrating the Past, Enjoying the Present, and Planning for the Future” **October 2019**

Contact Numbers

City Hall	405-390-8198
Public Works	405-390-1121
Code Enforcement	405-281-6869
Court Clerk	405-390-3333
Permits/Licenses	405-390-2999
Police (non-emergency)	405-769-3821
Fire (non-emergency)	405-390-8300
Police/Fire Emergency	911
Choctaw Creek Golf	405-769-7166
Waste Connections	405-745-2942



Recycling Schedule

Please remember that Waste Connections picks up recycling every other week. Recycling pick-up will occur in the weeks of: **Oct 1st, 4th & 28th.**

Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule

Bulk trash is picked up based on your regular trash day. Find your *regular trash day* below to see what day each month your Bulk Pick-Up will occur:

- Monday**=1st Thursday of the month
- Tuesday**= 2nd Thursday of month
- Wednesday**=3rd Thursday
- Thursday/Friday** = 4th Thursday

Ordinance Passed

City Council passed Ordinance 799-2019, Shipping Containers, on Sept. 3rd. The ordinance prevents the use of storage containers as permanent structures and allows the usage in agriculture, commercial, and industrial zoning areas. Placement in residential zoning is permitted for 14 days after registration with the City. Citizens with a storage container prior to passage of this ordinance are not required to register or remove their container until a change of ownership is recorded on the property. Please read the full text of

Ordinance 799-2019 at: <https://mychoctaw.org/DocumentCenter/View/1113/799-2019-Ch-10-Pt-12-Shipping-Containers-9319>.

Cox Payments No Longer Accepted

As of **October 1st, 2019**, City Hall will no longer be a payment drop-off location for your Cox services. As always you may make payments online, by phone, or simply add a stamp to the envelope and mail your payment in. You may also pay in person at the nearest Cox Solutions store, located at 7199 SE 29th Street in Midwest City.

Glow Run

Choctaw Elementary is sponsoring a Family Glow Run on **Oct. 4th** at Choctaw Creek Park. Proceeds will be used to buy new security measures for the Elementary front entrance. Packet pick-up begins at **6:00pm** and races start at **6:30pm**. For more information visit <https://runsignup.com/race/ok/choctaw/glowrunand5k>.

Friday Night Bites

You asked for it, so join us for food trucks, music, & lawn games to cap off our Food Truck Fridays season with a move to Choctaw Creek Park for dinner! **October 4th, 6:00-10:00pm**. Line-up includes Amici In Movimento, Murphy’s CookShack, I Don’t Know & I Don’t Care, Coit’s, and live music by Kerry Wayne’s Rockstar Band followed by Mike Black & the Stingrays.

Taste of Choctaw

It’s our 1st Annual Celebration of local businesses! On **Oct. 12th, 10:00am-2:00pm**, join us at the Farmer’s Market, Choctaw Creek Park, for a relaxing Saturday where you can enjoy all Choctaw has to offer, from restaurants to boutiques to bakeries. There will be music, food, crafts, specialty items, and more! All vendors will be from Choctaw.



Haunted Trails & Haunted Forest

Choctaw Creek Park hosts all of our Halloween events, including the Trick-or-Treat Trail for little ones. This year’s events will be held on **Oct. 25th, 26th, and 31st**. Activities begin at **7:00pm** and end at **10:00pm**, while the Haunted Forest is open from *dusk to 11:00pm*. Check out our page <https://mychoctaw.org/215/Haunted-Trails-Haunted-Forest> for all events and prices, or call 405-390-8198.

LCA Pumpkin Patch

Life Christian Academy will host their 4th Annual Pumpkin Patch, **Oct. 7th-31st**, located at 3200 N. Choctaw Rd. Open **Mon-Sat, 10:00am to dark**, and **Sundays, noon to dark**. In addition to pumpkins, gourds, and hay bales for sale, it’s a great place to take pictures! Bring the whole family, we’d love to see you! For daycares or other groups, please call 405-596-2928 or 405-390-5081 for reservations.

Also join us for the School Fall Festival, **Sat. Oct 26th, 10:00am-2:00pm** for games, food, fun, and candy!



Winter Holiday Market

Shop local vendors and food trucks and enjoy this indoor/outdoor event! Free to attend, so come to Westfall Elementary, 13239 NE 10th St., on **Sat. November 9th, 9:00am-3:00pm**.

Choctaw Senior Center

We are located at 14653 Dean Street and are open **Mon - Fri, 9:00am to 1:00pm**. We have lots to offer, including daily Lunch served at **11:30am**, games, books, music, and great company. Reservations are required for lunch. For more information or to sign up for a meal or an event, call the Senior Center at **(405) 390-8040** between **9:00am & 1:00pm**. For daily menu & activities calendars, go to <https://mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center>.

Visit us online at www.mychoctaw.org for even more information.

Board / Commission Meeting Dates

(All meetings @ City Hall unless otherwise noted)

7 PM

City Council meeting followed by Choctaw Utilities Authority: Oct. 1st & 15th

Planning Commission Meeting: Oct. 3rd

Public Recreation Advisory Board Meeting: October 8th

Board of Adjustments Meeting (as needed): October 28th

4:30 PM

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (Choctaw Creek Golf Course): Oct. 30th

Here are some of our weekly events:

Mon., Oct. 14th - SALT/TRIAD at 9:30am

Mon., Oct. 21st - Blood Pressure Clinic at 10:30am

Tuesday/Thursday - Bingo, 10:00am

Tues., Oct. 15th - Alzheimer's Support Group, 12:00 - 1:00pm

Wednesdays - Devotion at 10:30am

Fridays - Games

This month's special presentations:

"Adult Immunizations & Maintenance Medication Compliance," **Fri., Oct. 11th** at 10:45am and a Medicare Education Event, **Mon., Oct. 28th** at 11:00am.

Choctaw Library

The Choctaw branch of the Metropolitan Library System, located at 2525 Muzzy St., offers many excellent programs for patrons of all ages. To register for a program, call (405) 390-8418 ext 3. Visit their website to view a full calendar of events and more at www.metrolibrary.org. Here are a few of the events coming up:

Gross-Out Science: The Human Body, **Oct. 2nd**, 4-5pm, Ages 5-12; Join us to explore the science behind the human body, especially those slimy, creepy, smelly things, like boogers, blood, and other things that may gross you out!

Scary Stories to Tell at the Library: **Oct. 3rd**, 6:30-7:30pm, Families; Do you enjoy bone-chilling, spine-tingling stories? Join us for spook-tastic literature around a campfire.

Cooking Under Pressure: **Oct. 20th**, 2-3pm, Adults (registration required); If you have an Instapot or pressure cooker but aren't sure how to use it, learn the ins and outs of these appliances from OSU Extension Educator Taylor Conner. She'll show you how to prepare easy, healthy, and delicious meals, with samples to share!

Tissue Paper Sunset Art: **Oct. 22nd**, 7-8pm, Adults (registration required); Come together for a relaxing evening of art and make a beautiful sunset painting using tissue paper and acrylic paint to create a unique sunset effect.

City Manager's Corner

I learned two good lessons last month. 1) The city will address storm debris much differently in the future and 2) reference the Ward 2 conversation with Councilman Mike Birdsong, preparations will be a bit different for future conversations.

I personally assessed the scope of damage to trees around the city after the latest "inland hurricane." Waste Connections contracted two large claw trucks for a total of 4.5 days, which should have been plenty, based on the initial assessment. The lesson learned here is, and I apologize, the initial assessment fell short. And after word went out and the debris pick-up progressed, it appears some citizens took the opportunity to do tree-trimming on top of the storm debris. The effort grew to much more than storm debris only, thus overwhelming the initial plan, and impacting pick-up for those that really had tree damage from the storm. We had to make an adjustment to the plan. As this effort was not in the City Budget, and we could not continue with the expensive claw trucks, we wanted to continue to offer some relief options rather than cut off assistance in total. Thus, the option for roll-offs at Ten Acre Lake Park. As of publishing this "corner," the roll-off dumpsters

were available from Sept. 14 to Sept. 22. I know people took the opportunity to use them, as the dumpsters were full on the first Monday morning, Sept. 16th. Citizens still have two other options available after Sept. 22: 1) cut the debris in 4-foot bundles and Waste Connections will pick it up during your regularly scheduled bulk pick-up, or 2) obtain a burn permit from the fire department. Again, from these lessons learned, the City will adjust such efforts in the future.

Councilman Birdsong's Ward 2 Conversation was well received by the public and his Ward 2 constituents. The Councilman was well prepared for most any questions. We were pleasantly surprised by the tone of the event in that citizens came to converse and give positive input on working together to move Choctaw forward. The lesson learned here was we weighted preparation efforts a bit too much on the negative aspects of Social Media, which in turn, shorted efforts to promote the positive goings-on in the City. There was good discussion on roads, the way forward with roads, economic development, future business, and support to small business, Parks & Recreation efforts, and even a bit of historical preservation conversation. All in all, well-received and worth all the preparation.

Downtown Building update: The City is in conversation with the design firm on the possibility of a public/private venture. I will be meeting with potential developers in the near future—wanted to make sure I get word out that the effort is still working.

The hotel contractor is hard-at-work clearing land and prepping for the concrete pad. A lot of work and equipment moving in that area right now.

The Roads Committee will be making recommendations to council and the public very soon. Stay tuned for that outcome, and look for information on Starbucks very soon!



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Did you know?

The City Council agendas as well as all of the back-up information is available on the City's website at: www.mychoctaw.org

Check it out and subscribe!