



CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

“Celebrating the Past, Enjoying the Present, and Planning for the Future” November 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: **Nov 11th & 25th.**

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

City Hall Closed

City Hall and its offices will be closed for Veterans Day on **Nov. 11th**. Trash services will not be affected.

City Hall and its offices will also be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on **Nov. 28th & 29th**. Trash will run one day behind for those customers on and after the holiday only.

New Bulk Waste Fee

Effective **Nov. 1, 2019**, there will be an additional charge for any bulk waste in excess of our current regulations of 3 cubic yards, as well as un-

bundled, loose trash. This was passed by City Council on Sept. 16th by Resolution No. 33-19. Residents will see a fee of \$15.00 for bulk waste over 3 cubic yards, \$30.00 for loose/unbundled yard waste, and \$30.00 + \$15.00/per cubic yard for loose/unbundled trash over 3 cubic yards.

J.O.Y. Dinner

The Choctaw Church of the Nazarene will host the 4th Annual J.O.Y. Dinner, (Just Older Youth), a Christmas celebration for residents of southeast Oklahoma county on **Thurs. Dec 5th** at 6:30pm, for those 55 yrs. and older. This event is free and features food, entertainment, and door prizes. For more information or transportation, call Gloria Jones at (405) 413-4847 or the church at (405) 390-8403.

Christmas in Choctaw

Join us for Christmas at the Creek! It's our annual Christmas party for kids up to age 10. There will be entertainment, crafts, treats, and pictures with Santa! This family-friendly free event is hosted at the Choctaw Creek Golf Course, located at 2200 N. Hiwassee on **Dec. 7th** from 1:00-4:00pm. Then at 5:00pm we hope to see you at the corner of Main & Gilbert for the 3rd Annual Tree Lighting! Enjoy caroling and vendors with hot chocolate and snacks as we mark the beginning of the Christmas season in Choctaw.

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, & 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**. For daily menu & activities calendars, go to <https://mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center>.

Here are some of our weekly events:

Mon., Nov. 4th & 18th - Blood Pres-

sure Clinic at 10:30am

Mon., Nov. 25th - SALT/TRIAD at 9:30am

Tuesday/Thursday - Bingo, 10:00am

Tues., Nov. 19th - Alzheimer's Support Group, 12:00 - 1:00pm

Wednesdays - Devotion at 10:30am

Fridays - Games

Silent Auction, **Nov. 18th-27th**

This month's special presentations: "Physician's House Calls," **Fri., Nov. 8th** at 10:45am

The "Real ID" Act, **Fri., Nov. 15th** at 10:30am.

The Senior Center will be closed for Thanksgiving on **Nov. 28th & 29th**.

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:

Choose Your Own Adventure: How To Train Your Dragon, Nov. 6th, 4-5pm, Ages 5-12; Join Hiccup and the other Hairy Hooligan novices on the Isle of Berk. The choices you make in the storyline will determine where you go next. Will you creep through Caliban Caves or listen to the Supper Song of a Sea Dragonus Giganticus Maximus on the Long Beach?

Lunarpalooza!: Nov. 7th, 6:30-8:00pm, Families; We'll explore all the best parts of outer space—constellations, planets, the Mars rover, and more! Try your hand at our astronaut training course, plan a trip to Mars, snap a photo in our rocket ship, & sample astronaut ice cream.

Holiday Card-Making: Nov. 17th, 2-4pm, Adults (Registration Required); Channel your inner Martha Stewart as we make personalized 3-D and pop-up holiday cards, and the more challenging light-up card!

Tea with a T-Rex: Nov. 19th, 9:30-10am, Ages 0-3; and **10:30-11:15am**,

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: **Nov. 5th & 19th**

Planning Commission Meeting: **Nov. 7th**

Public Recreation Advisory Board Meeting: **November 12th**

Board of Adjustments Meeting (as needed): **November 25th**

4:30 PM

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (Choctaw Creek Golf Course): **Nov. 27th**

Ages 3-5; Join our prehistoric guest and learn all about proper tea party etiquette! Enjoy kid-friendly tea and snacks and explore some dino-mite crafts and activities!

Hounds and Homework: **Nov. 20th**, 4:00-5:00pm, *Ages 6-12;* Learn how to be a better reader, build “paw-sitive” self-esteem, & improve your reading skills while reading aloud to certified therapy dogs. You can also team up with a local volunteer to get extra help on homework!

123! Play With Me!: **Nov 22nd**, 10:00-11:00am, *Birth-PreK;* This fun, play-based four-week series provides an environment rich with toys, books, & art activities for parents, caregivers, babies, toddlers, & preschoolers. It's an excellent opportunity for families to spend time together, make new friends, and talk one-on-one with early childhood and family support specialists.

Resources

Need help with healthcare, housing, food, clothing, or utility assistance? Call 211. It's a 24-hour resource to provide referrals to community-based services for everyday needs or in times of crisis or disaster. Talk to someone who cares and knows where to go for help - Call 211.

City Manager's Corner

Hello Choctaw! Fall is my absolute favorite season--temps are down, air is

a bit dryer, and the grass is starting to go dormant. Mornings and evenings in Choctaw create beautiful sunrises and sunsets. Coupled with that, there is a lot of good going on right now in your town.

The City just purchased a ladder truck to support our professional fire fighters and the safety of citizens around town. When I started two years ago, one of the first big rocks on my list was to figure out how to procure a ladder truck for our fire fighters. With the ground breaking of a 3-story hotel, a Walmart, and potential for a few more 3-story buildings in the area, a ladder truck has become almost a necessity. The good news, beyond just getting the truck, is the good fortune the City had in the purchase price. As many of you may know, a ladder truck can run almost \$1M new. Choctaw was able to negotiate an immaculate 2009 model for one-tenth the cost. Employees flew out to inspect and pick up the new vehicle. The truck will still need a bit of work in paint, decals, and some other equipment, but it has passed all inspections and will be ready to bring on-line quickly.

The City Waste Water Treatment Plant came on-line October 11. Although offices will not be done until November, we are processing all waste water through the new facility. I toured the facility with the engineer, and it is impressive. With a capacity of 1 million gallons a day, and surge capacity of 3 to 5 million over 5 days, this is a great improvement to our community. I was able to see the process from inflow to outflow, and the quality of the water going back into the stream is higher quality than the water in the stream, based on oxygen content. The facility uses no chemicals but decontaminates the water using air and ultra-violet light. Very eco-friendly! Your Council did well with the future planning of this facility. As the City grows, so too can the

Waste Water Treatment Plant. It has an expansion capability of up to 4 million gallons/water/day, with surge capacity of up to 12 million. To top it all off, the facility was pretty much on-time, on-budget, with very few issues at the switch.

You will see a lot of dirt moving this month in preparation for construction with Starbucks, the Best Western Plus Hotel, Tinker Federal Credit Union, and new water lines along 23rd St. and up Anderson to 15th. There are also multiple, smaller residential subdivisions working. The Roads Committee will soon be rolling out the roads improvement plan. The Street Department did a great job in fixing the wash-out on Indian Meridian between 15th & Reno. They are now working the road “wave” in front of Westfall. This fix should be complete by November 1.

On a final note, I would be remiss if I did not recognize a Choctaw Professional Public Service legend—Bernie Nauheimer, currently my Deputy and Finance Director. Bernie started with the City 41 years ago as a Trash Collector. He progressed through the years in multiple positions, including Public Works Director, City Clerk, and finally his current position. He is responsible for many Choctaw traditional events: the fishing derby, Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Haunted Trails, and many more. He is the consummate public service professional, not looking for the recognition but doing what is best for the Citizens of Choctaw in the most efficient and effective manner possible. Bernie, I thank you personally for your mentorship the last two and a half years. My efforts to move us forward professionally in improving our processes, procedures, and customer service could not have happened if you were not here in the background pushing me forward. Thank you! You will be missed, and your impact to the City will be hard to match by anyone coming after you. See you for coffee once a month after you settle into retirement.



Choctaw City Hall

2500 N. Choctaw Road
P.O. Box 567
Choctaw, Oklahoma 73020

Phone: (405) 390-8198
Fax: (405) 390-8607
Email: citymanager@choctawcity.org
Web Site: www.mychoctaw.org

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!