



CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

“Celebrating the Past, Enjoying the Present, and Planning for the Future” **October 2020**

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 Pickup Schedule

Waste Connections picks up recycling every other week. Recycling will occur in the weeks of: **Oct. 12th & 26th.**



Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule

Bulk trash is picked up monthly *based on your regular trash day.* Find your trash day to see when 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

Choctaw Senior Center

The Choctaw Senior Center is located at 14653 Dean Street. The Senior Center is currently closed due to COVID-19 Health Department & CDC guidelines. During this closure, Senior Center members are still receiving meals and there are some curbside activities. Whether it is open or closed, there are planned acknowledgment activities for Veteran’s Day and Fall Harvest. Re-opening information will be posted on the city webpage at mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center.



Choctaw Library

The Choctaw branch of the Metropolitan Library System is located at 2525 Muzzy Street. All Metro Library locations are in the "Grab & Go" stage. In this stage, customers can come into a library to use a computer, print/copy/fax/scan, and briefly browse the shelves. Masks are required. You may still return materials to the external book drop, place holds online, and pick up using curbside service. Hours for curbside pickup are Monday-Thursday 9am-7pm; Fridays 9am-6pm; Saturdays 9am-5pm; Sundays 1pm-6pm.

In-person programs are suspended, but many programs are available online. Registration is required to get the link for the class. For more information, visit their website: metrolibrary.org/coronavirus.



Parks & Recreation Events

The Friday Night Farmer’s Market is going strong at Choctaw Creek Park. Remember to practice physical distancing, wear a mask, and use hand sanitizer when washing hands with soap and water is not possible. Also changing this year are the Halloween events—all being held virtually for everyone’s safety. The Costume Contest will be one way to show your Halloween spirit, with voting via Facebook on October 30th from 4:00-8:00pm.

The Pumpkin Carving Contest is a great way to get the family together to enjoy this seasonal favorite, with voting via Facebook October 30th from 4:00-8:00pm.

If you’re a diehard Halloween fan and love to decorate the outside of your home, we’d like to see it! Register on the city website to participate, only

homes inside City limits please. Judging will occur the night of October 30th, 7:00-10:00pm. Winners of all the contests will be announced before 10:00pm on October 31st.

October also brings Fall Break Youth Camps and Winter Adult Sports Leagues. Contact Matt Anderson at 405-281-6289 or see our Bouse Sports Complex page on the City website.

For more information about any event, see the City website or call 405-281-6854.



Caring For Your On-Site Septic System

Properly constructed absorption fields do not require any maintenance, however the protection of your absorption field is critical. The following is a list of simple rules to follow regarding protection of your absorption field:

- A healthy, long-lasting and trouble free septic system is directly effected by what you put in it. Your septic system is not a dispose-all.
- Plant only grasses over the absorption field. Do not plant trees and shrubs over the absorption field as their roots may clog and damage it.
- Do not park or drive over any part of your septic system. This will compact the soil and damage your system.
- Effluent filters installed in your septic tank will help protect your absorption field from excess solids.
- All wastewater generated in your home (including wastewater from your washing machine, dishwasher, sinks, showers/bathtubs and toilets) should flow to your septic system. All of these wastewater sources can contain disease-causing microorganisms and environmental pollutants.
- Divert all rain and surface water drainage systems away from your

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

Board / Commission Meeting Dates

(All meetings @ City Hall unless otherwise noted; virtual attendance available via Zoom link, found in the agenda for the meeting)

7:00 PM

City Council, followed by Choctaw Utilities Authority: **Oct 6th & 20th**

Planning Commission: **Oct 1st**

Public Recreation Advisory Board: **Oct 13th**

Board of Adjustments (as needed): **Oct 26th**

4:30 PM

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (Choctaw City Hall & Zoom): **Oct 28th**

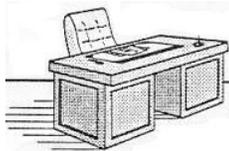
on-site septic system.

- Use water saving devices and repair any leaking plumbing fixtures immediately.
- Do not use caustic drain openers to unclogged drains.
- Do not use septic tank additives or commercial septic tank cleaner chemicals.
- Use commercial bathroom cleaners and laundry detergents in moderation.
- Avoid dumping grease or fats down your kitchen drain.
- Keep paints, varnishes, thinners, waste oil, pesticides, and other hazardous chemicals out of your system.



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 2-1-1.



FROM THE
City Manager

City Manager's Corner

Hello Choctaw! It has been quite a

month starting with very heavy rain at the beginning, beautiful Fall weather in the middle, a bit more rain, and now a slow rise in temperatures toward the end of the month. We have a lot going on in the City right now as we continue to fight through the challenges of the pandemic. One great piece of news is city sales tax is up much greater than projected. We have been watching this closely since July and in total we are up 23% over last year in sales tax and up 61% in use tax (on-line sales). Staff will be working a budget amendment over the next month to bring to council in late October. The amendment will bring back Capital requirements, a look at personnel, and more normalized operational expenditures across the board for the city. What I really want to address today is the need for citizen participation in boards and commissions. The City has four openings on the Planning Commission right now to represent Wards 1, 2, 6, and an alternate. Other than Council, the Planning Commission is the most important board in setting direction for the city and advising the council. The Planning Commission is responsible for the Comprehensive Master Plan, which staff and council use in daily decision-making to guide the city on a multitude of important issues. The plan encompasses guidance on land use, zoning, development, utilities, trails, parks, some code, and a multitude of other important aspects of a city. The Planning Commission, in cooperation with the Development Services Division of the City, tracks and implements recommendations found in the Comprehensive Master Plan. If you are interested in helping develop the direction of Choctaw, learning about your city staff and council, please step up and apply using this link: <https://mychoctaw.org/DocumentCenter/View/245/Choctaw-Board-Application-PDF>

We are also in need of applications to the Public Recreation Advisory Board. This board serves in an advisory capacity to Staff and Council on matters concerning our Parks and Recreation. The Board reviews the City Master

Park Plan, conducts public hearings, participates in committees for special events, volunteers and recruits volunteers for special events, and makes recommendations to staff and council on Parks and Recreation-related issues. Again, it's a great way for citizens to get involved in their municipal government. We are in need of three new members of this board. You may use the same application link above. Boards and Commissions are great ways to learn about your municipal government, get involved, and help set direction for your City.
Your City Manager,
Ed Brown



From the World Health Organization:

1. FEET—Stay more than 6 feet apart
2. HANDS—Wash them often
3. AVOID---Crowded, enclosed areas
4. MASK---Wear a mask where recommended
5. FEEL sick?—Stay home

OCCHD (Oklahoma City-County Health Department) phone bank hotline, 405-425-4489, currently staffed M-F, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Outside of those hours, please call the state hotline, which is operational 24 hours a day:



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!