



CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

“Celebrating the Past, Enjoying the Present, and Planning for the Future” **April 2021**

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

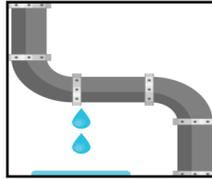
Waste Connections picks up recycling every other week. Recycling will occur in the weeks of: **Mar. 29th, Apr. 12th & 26th.**



Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule

Bulk trash is picked up monthly *based on your regular trash day*. Find your trash day to see when your monthly Bulk Pick-Up will occur:

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



Water Bill Impact

The February Winter Weather Event was an extraordinary storm with record-breaking low temperatures. Due to this, several homes in the Choctaw area experienced frozen water lines and burst pipes and other related water leaks, leading to costly repairs. If you experienced a water leak, please submit a copy of your repair receipts to us and we would be happy to adjust your April bill to offset your usage. You can bring a copy by City Hall or email it to trodriquez@choctawcity.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Tina Rodriguez at 405-390-5110 to discuss issues with your account.



Easter Egg Hunt

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, **April 3rd**. The Easter Bunny will be there along with inflatables, train rides, face painting, arts & crafts, food trucks, and more! Join us at Choctaw Creek Park from 10:00am to 1:00pm, Saturday, **April 3rd**.



Choctaw Round-Up Club

The Choctaw Round-Up Club is proud to present the BBR approved Spring Buckle Series, Thursdays, **April 1st—May 6th**. Also beginning **April 5th**, every Monday night will be Team Roping Sled Practice. Friday nights will be Playday, as Jackpot Season begins **April 9th** (check their website for specific dates). Come hungry as concessions will be open. Located at 13700 NE 36th Street, the Choctaw Round-Up Club can also be found on

Facebook or you can contact JC at 405-613-4017. Check out choctawround-upclub.com for all the upcoming event dates, times, and admission / entry fees.



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 members are receiving meals and there are some curbside activities. Any re-opening information will be posted on the city webpage at mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center. For more information contact Lorna Harper at 405-390-8040.



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. 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 Mon-Thurs *9am-7pm*; Fridays *9am-6pm*; Saturdays *9am-5pm*; Sundays *1pm-6pm*. In-person programs are suspended but many programs are available online in addition to pre-made kits.

Container Gardening, Apr. 11th, 2:00-3:00pm, Adults; Not much room for gardening or wanting to downsize? Go big in a small way! Master Gardener Cindy Shaefer will discuss planting options, irrigation, location, and all things related to container gardening in Oklahoma. Registration required for Zoom link.

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: **April 5th (due to election) & 20th**

Planning Commission: **April 1st**

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

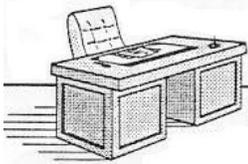
Board of Adjustments (as needed): **April 26th**

4:30 PM

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

Get Cooking: Cooking with Herbs, Apr. 20th, 6:30-7:30pm, Adults; Fresh herbs are the gateway to creating delicious and flavorful dishes! Come here Taylor Conner, Family & Consumer Sciences Educator and Registered Dietician, talk about using herbs in meal preparation. This virtual class will cover which herbs can be used to flavor dishes how to store herbs for long-term use, how to store freshly cut herbs and which herbs pair best with what foods. In addition, Taylor will demonstrate how you can easily prepare and Herb Vinegar Kit at home. Registration required for Zoom link.

Home Composting, Apr. 22nd, 6:30-7:30pm, Adults; Do you want to reduce how much trash you make at home? Do you want cheap natural fertilizer? Learn how home composting can help you! Joshua Campbell with Oklahoma County Extension will explore the benefits of composting, things to consider before starting and composting methods. Registration required for Zoom link.



FROM THE
City Manager

City Manager's Corner

Hello Choctaw! City elections are just around the corner, and this year there are eight candidates running for three seats. Watching these elections from the City Manager Chair every

year is very interesting indeed. Many people do not understand the Council/Manager form of government, and the specific roles each play in the operations and direction of the City. One common misconception by citizens and newly elected officials is they will have some say over the more minor details of city operations or personnel. The Charter of the City is specific in this regard; the City Manager is designated as the CEO of the City and is charged with day-to-day operations, and the execution of policies set by City Council. Elected officials are Board Members elected by the citizens to create the vision and set policy for the City. The only personnel decisions made by City Council are the appointment of the City Manager, Judges, Planning Commission members, Board of Adjustment members, and other ad hoc boards and commissions. Council members meet twice a month, at 7:00 pm, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. When Council is gathered as a quorum, they receive reports from boards and staff from which they make informed decisions regarding the City of Choctaw. Outside of the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, they are regular citizens of Choctaw.

Today is the most difficult City Manager Corner I have had to write, as it is my last. Recently I was presented with, and accepted, a great opportunity to work for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family policy, to lead Defense policy for Business, Retail, Lodging, and Grocery (Commissary) programs. Specifically, I will be leading the Defense initiative to consolidate retail and commissary programs across the Department of Defense (DoD) in an effort to realize centralized efficiencies. My background in these areas was a major reason I was asked to fill the position. My wife and I have mixed emotions about moving back to Northern Virginia. We picked up and moved to Choctaw fully committed to planting our roots here until retirement. We built a home in Choctaw and became part of this community—it was a big sacrifice to make such a

move. The decision to pick up roots again was not made lightly and there are very few reasons we would leave Choctaw. When I was told “we need you to come back and help our military families,” I could not pass that up. I will miss Choctaw and the experience gained in leading staff and council in the execution of the Strategic Plan. Many changes, transparent to the citizenry of Choctaw, were made creating a stable foundation for the next City Manager to build on moving forward. The professional public servants of Choctaw will continue their service for the citizens and city. I am proud of the daily commitment from the team and wish them the best in continuing to mold Choctaw into a great place to live and work. Thank you for the opportunity.

Your City Manager,
Ed Brown



From the World Health Organization:

- FEET—Stay more than 6 feet apart
- HANDS—Wash them often
- AVOID---Crowded, enclosed areas
- MASK---Wear a mask where recommended
- 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!