



September 2009

Inside College Station

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Crime Prevention Month

In 1984 the National Crime Prevention Council designated October as Crime Prevention Month. The month-long celebration recognizes successful crime prevention efforts on the local, state and national levels. The purpose is to generate interest and enthusiasm for prevention efforts to continue to grow even stronger and become more widespread.

The College Station Police Department will be celebrating Crime Prevention Month through a number of events in the community this October. Events kick-off on September 30 with a proclamation signing at the County Administration Building located at 200 South Texas Avenue in Bryan beginning at 3:00 p.m. All law enforcement agencies from the Brazos County and city and county officials will be in attendance.

SAFETY SPARKTACULAR ----- October 3

On Saturday, October 3, area law enforcement will join College Station Utilities and the College Station Fire Department at the city's annual Safety Sparktacular at Post Oak Mall. The celebration educates

citizens on the benefits of public power, highlights fire prevention tactics and gives safety information to attendees. The College Station Police Department will be on hand to provide child fingerprinting and will have several patrol cars for citizens to look at. The event begins at 10:00 a.m. and kicks-off National Night Out.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ----- October 6

The 26th Annual National Night Out has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. National Night Out has proven to be an effective, inexpensive, and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in the fight for a safer nation.

You are invited to be part of the National Night Out 2009 team and host a block par-

ty in your neighborhood! Please contact Sgt. Janice Kemp at 979.764.3624 or Officer Karla Wiesepape at 979.764.3573 for more information. Neighborhood entries must be submitted by October 1 to be included in this year's National Night Out.

CHILD SAFETY ----- October 17

College Station Police will host a "Child Safety" event, providing child fingerprinting, bike safety, back to school safety, Halloween safety and fire prevention/safety. The event will be held on Saturday, October 17 at Grand Station from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

HUNTING & GUN SAFETY ----- October 24

On Saturday, October 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Academy, the College Station Police Department, the Brazos County Sheriff's Department and State Game Warden will provide information on hunting and gun safety. The College Station Police Department will hand out free gun locks at the event.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY ----- October 26

The last week in October, the College Station Police Department will be providing Halloween safety tips to parents and children. College Station Police will be at Target offering Halloween safety tips and child fingerprinting on Monday, October 26 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. More Halloween safety tips will be provided in October's utility bill insert.

For information on any of the events mentioned above, contact Sgt. Janice Kemp at 979.764.3624 or jkemp@cstx.gov.

For more on the College Station
Police Department, go to:

www.cstx.gov/police



2010 Citizens' University

College Station's "Citizens' University" is a 10-week, 30-hour class offered to College Station residents from January 25 – April 3. The purpose is to help residents gain an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of city staff and

City Council. The application deadline is December 5. For more information, call 979.764.3445 or visit www.cstx.gov/cu.

Neighborhood, District, and Corridor Planning -----

The Neighborhood, District, and Corridor Planning program will kick off this Fall with the Central College Station Neighborhood Plan. The City will be working with residents, business owners, and other interested members of the community to develop a plan for the area between Harvey Mitchell Parkway and Rock Prairie Road, incorporating the Southwood Valley and Edelweiss Estates areas as well as other subdivisions in the neighborhood. The planning process will take around 10 months to complete.

Adopted in May, College Station's Comprehensive Plan, Places, created a vision for the future of the community. At the forefront of that vision is the desire to create, protect, and enhance places of distinction. To achieve this vision, the City has created the Neighborhood, District, and Corridor Planning program to bring vitality, sustainability, and stability to the neighborhoods, districts, and corridors of College Station. This program will focus on developing plans for areas designated for further review in the Comprehensive Plan.

The success of the Neighborhood, District, and Corridor Planning program is dependent upon community participation. As part of the planning process, City Staff will be working to develop a variety of opportunities for the community to be involved in planning.

For more information about the plan and on how to get involved, contact Lindsay Kramer at lkramer@cstx.gov or Matt Robinson at mrobinson@cstx.gov with Planning and Development Services.

Warrant Amnesty -----

In an effort to clear thousands of collectively outstanding warrants totaling millions of dollars from the City of College Station, the City of Bryan, and the offices of the Brazos County justices of the peace, a warrant amnesty period has been scheduled for October 12-23.

The amnesty period allows citizens with outstanding warrants to avoid paying a \$50 (per case) warrant fee if fines are paid in full. No partial payment schedules will be allowed if citizens want to avoid the \$50 fee. The City of College Station accepts cash, cashier's check, credit cards, money orders, and personal checks. Outstanding warrants cannot be paid via College Station's online citation payment system.

Local Warrant Roundup

From October 26th to November 6th, local law enforcement officials will conduct a "warrant roundup." City marshals, police officers, reserve police officers and constables will arrest citizens who failed to pay their fines during the designated amnesty period.

Warrants on the Web

On September 1, the College Station Municipal Court will begin publishing a list of all outstanding warrants on www.cstx.gov/warrants. Now the public can check their warrant status if a citation was issued by the College Station Police Department.

Citizens who are uncertain whether outstanding warrants exist in their name may contact: City of College Station Municipal Court at 979.764.3683.

Recurring Payments -----

College Station Utilities is proud to offer customers a new, convenient way to pay their utility bills! Utility customers can now sign up for Recurring Payments, which will automatically be deducted from or charged to your designated source on the date that the bill is due.

You can sign up for Recurring Payments by visiting www.cstx.gov/ucs then by clicking on "Make Online Payments and Maintain Account Information." After signing on, simply click on the "Auto Pay" button to enroll for Recurring Payments. Customers may cancel Recurring Payments at anytime.

For more information about Recurring Payments, contact the Utility Customer Service office at 979.764.3535.

Pressure Reducing Valves –

College Station Water Services is beginning a project this fall to ease the water pressure on some of its customers. Texas public water systems must maintain a minimum of 35 pounds per square inch (psi) water pressure under normal operating conditions and 20 psi under fire flow conditions. Although there is no maximum requirement for water pressure, equalizing water pressure throughout the water system saves water and improves the operation of the water distribution system.

Water Services will install three pressure-reducing valves in key sections of its water distribution system. The valves will reduce water pressure in the following neighborhoods: Pebble Creek, Stone Forest, Castlegate, Castle Rock, Woodland Hills, and Spring Meadows. Pressure will be reduced by approximately 2 psi per month over a period of several months.

Some customers in the affected areas may already have pressure reducing valves installed on their home to lower the pressure to 80 psi or less. Any customers who notice any decrease in performance of their irrigation systems, or are concerned with very low pressure in their home, are encouraged to contact Utility Dispatch at 979.764.3638.