



Newspaper

FROM THE CITY OF BENBROOK, TEXAS

Special Election – May 1, 2021

Benbrook voters will soon decide if the City of Benbrook should issue bonds to fund a new Municipal Complex. At a May 1, 2021 special election, citizens will be asked to vote on \$22 million in bonds to be used to design and construct a new two-story, approximately 35,000 square-foot Benbrook Municipal Complex to act as an anchor for a proposed downtown development, and to provide for a new Police Station, Senior Citizen's Center, Municipal Court, Administrative Offices, and a Visitor's Center.

The proposed project will NOT raise property taxes. If approved by the voters, the City can utilize funds from existing debt that is being paid off toward a new bond, along with other funds in the current budget, to finance the project.

See insert for complete details.



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Stay Up-To-Date:

When emergency situations arise, the City of Benbrook works tirelessly to keep our community informed about safety protocols, resources, and announcements. City staff provide real-time status updates that are intended to be helpful to our residents and business community. The City's website (www.benbrook-tx.gov) and Facebook page are the official platforms for citizens to find the latest information.

PLEASE NOTE: Certain material included in this newsletter is provided by other entities. Any opinions expressed by those entities do not necessarily reflect the official views of the City.

The City reserves the right to edit, as necessary, however the City does not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided and is not responsible for errors or omissions.

STAY UP-TO-DATE:



Check out Benbrook Government Access Cable Channel:
Spectrum, Channel 190



Springtime Animal Safety Tips

Springtime in Texas means warmer weather and new wildlife exploring their surroundings, so don't be surprised if you see animals in the park or around your neighborhood. For your safety and the safety of the animals, do not approach wildlife. If you believe an animal may be injured or in danger, please call the City of Benbrook's Animal Control Department. An animal control officer will be happy to check on them, and make sure they are safe.

To keep wildlife away from your home, please do not tempt them by leaving pet food outside, and make sure your trash is stored securely to keep animals out. Feeding wildlife disrupts their normal behavior patterns and invites them into more populated areas, which exposes them to many unnecessary dangers. Wildlife can also put your pets at risk. Please make sure your pets are currently vaccinated. The rabies vaccination is required by law for all dogs, cats, and ferrets.

For animal control assistance, call 817-249-1610.



DON'T FEED the Ducks Bread

Bread makes ducks sick by leading to excessive weight and malnutrition. Rotting bread pollutes the water and causes surface algae, which kills fish and spreads other diseases to wildlife. If you like to feed ducks, choose one of the following safe alternatives to bread:

- Seedless grapes - cut in half
- Chopped lettuce
- Birdseed
- Uncooked fresh corn
- Uncooked oats



Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament – FUNdraiser!

The Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC) will host the BACC Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, June 21, 2021, at Mira Vista Country Club, 6600 Mira Vista Blvd., in Fort Worth. All BACC members and the public are invited to join in the fun! This open tournament is played on the championship 18-hole golf course, offering winding paths and stunning views. For more information, please contact the BACC office at 817-249-4451, or visit www.gobenbrook.com.

Benbrook Community Center/YMCA News

We're Hiring! www.ymcafw.org/careers



Join us for Healthy Kids Day on May 1

Summer starts here! As the school year winds down, it's time to relax, decompress, and get excited about summer programs at the Y! At Healthy Kids Day, children and families will have the opportunity to learn about the importance of healthy eating, nutrition, physical activity, mental and emotional well-being, and developing healthy habits. This event is FREE and open to the community.

Day Camp Registration is Now Open – Camp Starts June 21

Make summer 2021 an adventure for your child! The Y's Day Camp provides excitement, adventure, and a sense of belonging. To register, visit www.ymcafw.org/summer-day-camp. For questions, contact the Camp Program Director at 817-249-0500 or accscamp@ymcafw.org.

Get a Jump on Summer – Come learn to swim at the Y! Learn more about YMCA programs at www.ymcafw.org/programs.

New Technology at Benbrook Public Library

The Benbrook Public Library now offers three semi-private computer booths for residents. These computer workstations are ideal for virtual meetings, online learning, and other needs that require increased sound levels. Each booth includes a computer, sound reduction technology, ventilation with HEPA filters, hand sanitizing dispenser, and UVC germicidal lighting.

Also, the library will soon introduce a tablet station for in-house use. The tablets feature antibacterial protective screens, are served by the library's Wi-Fi, and are preloaded with age-appropriate digital magazines, ebooks, and learning applications.

For more information, contact the library at 817-249-6632.

The library's hours are 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Curbside pickup is available.



Spring Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Saturday, April 17 – 9:00-11:00 a.m. (or until the collection trailer is full)

Dutch Branch Park – 1899 Winscott Road
(in the rear parking lot behind Par 3 Golf - follow signs)

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection event is currently scheduled for **Saturday, April 17, 2021**. The event takes place at Dutch Branch Park, off Winscott Road, in the rear parking lot behind Par 3 Golf (follow signs) from 9:00-11:00 a.m. (or until the collection trailer is full).

Please bring proof of Benbrook residency (water bill or driver's license). Staff will be on-site to direct traffic and assist in unloading items from vehicles. Please drive slowly as you enter drop-off location.

Typical household, garden, and automotive chemicals are accepted for proper disposal. For a complete list of acceptable items; go to www.benbrook-tx.gov/441/Household-Hazardous-Waste.



PLEASE NOTE: This is the ONLY HHW event scheduled in 2021 in Benbrook. The City of Fort Worth has the authority to cancel this event due to COVID-19.

Throughout the year, Benbrook residents may also take Household Hazardous Waste items directly to the Fort Worth Environmental Collection Center, 6400 Bridge Street, Fort Worth. Please call for hours: 817-392-5257.

For event questions, please call Benbrook City Hall at 817-249-3000.

Damaged Pool Equipment

If you have damage or suspect damage to your pool or spa equipment (motor, filter, valves, heater, fountain, or pipes) due to the recent winter storm, contact your pool company or quality contractor (licensed and insured), as soon as possible, to schedule a service call. Be aware that a service call may take a while given the number of damaged pools in the region, and the shortage of pool parts available prior to the storm due to COVID-19 and higher demand for pool installations.

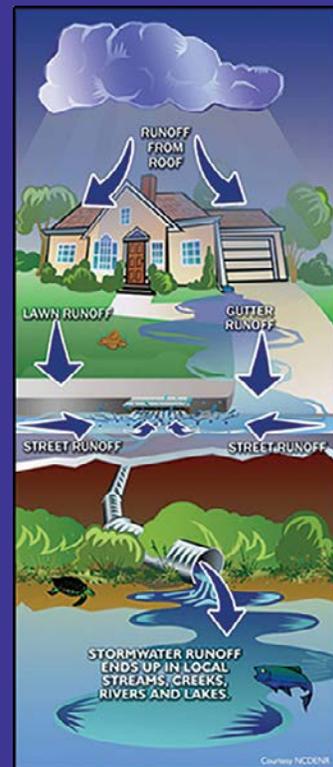
Helpful tip: While you are waiting to have your equipment repaired, it is very important to maintain the water quality by increasing chlorine levels and manually circulating the pool water. **Stagnant pool water can quickly develop a foul odor and become a breeding ground for mosquitos.** These practices will help control the mosquito population and ensure you are in compliance with all City codes and ordinances.

Help Prevent Stormwater Pollution

Stormwater is rainwater - plus anything the rain carries along with it (e.g., chemicals) - that winds up in the storm drain. Unlike sanitary sewage, stormwater is not treated at a wastewater treatment plant. The storm drain pipes lead directly to Benbrook Lake and other local creeks. To ensure we do not pollute our drinking water source, follow these ten easy steps.

10 Steps to Help Prevent Stormwater Pollution:

1. Take your car to the carwash instead of washing it at home.
2. When you change the oil in your car, properly dispose of it at an oil recycling center.
3. Check your vehicle, boat, and motorcycle for leaks. Use an absorbent material (e.g., cat litter) to absorb oil-based products, and then sweep it up.
4. Never dump or sweep anything into the storm drain.
5. Pick up after your pet.
6. Limit the use of pesticides, fertilizers, or herbicides on your lawn. If you must use them, don't apply them before it rains.
7. Use non-toxic or organic alternatives to pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides.
8. **Drain your pool into the sanitary sewer where it can be treated. If this option is not available, then the pool water must be de-chlorinated prior to draining into the storm drain. Make sure your pool service does this.**
9. Dispose of paint and other household hazardous waste at one of Benbrook's recycling events or take it to the City of Fort Worth's Environmental Center (6400 Bridge Street), with proof of residency, for free disposal. Old paint cans can also be left open to dry completely before disposing in the trash.
10. Reduce, reuse, and recycle.



To learn more about stormwater pollution and how you can help prevent it, visit our website at www.benbrook-tx.gov/546/Storm-Water-Runoff.



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Benbrook Community Gardens is Now Accepting New Gardeners

The Benbrook Community Gardens, located at Timber Creek Park (900 Park Drive), has a few 4'X14' raised garden plot beds available for 2021. The annual fee is \$50 and includes a water source, gardening tools, and limited organic supplies. To learn more, register for the **Saturday, April 10, 2021** informational meeting by emailing www.benbrookgardens@gmail.com. The Benbrook Community Gardens hosts a monthly meeting on the second Saturday of each month.



SUPPORT BENBROOK BUSINESSES BY SHOPPING LOCAL!

Benbrook's new ZoomBusiness website makes it easy to find shops and services in Benbrook. Simply visit www.BenbrookZoomBusiness.com.

Interested in listing your Benbrook business for **FREE**?

Go to www.BenbrookEDC.com or call **817-249-6990**.

City Council

- Jerry Dittrich..... Mayor
- Renee Franklin.....Place 2
- Larry MarshallPlace 3
- Dustin Phillips.....Place 4
- Alfredo ValverdePlace 5
- Laura Mackey.....Place 6
- Jason Ward.....Place 7

Benbrook City Council meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Benbrook City Hall, 911 Winscott Road.

City Hall will be closed for Memorial Day – May 31, 2021