



COLLECTIBLE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT AND GREETING CARDS

{Details on Reverse}

Note: This newsletter was printed Oct. 19. All information is current through that date. Please visit georgetown.org for the latest information.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Seasonal celebrations in Georgetown, such as Lighting of the Square, will look a little different this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Some events, including the annual Christmas Stroll put on by the Downtown Georgetown Association in partnership with the City, have been canceled. We're working to make sure everyone can safely enjoy all Georgetown has to offer. Please visit georgetown.org for information and updates as they're available.

Holiday string lights recycling

The City has partnered with Texas Disposal Systems to continue its free holiday string lights recycling program to Georgetown residents. Drop off broken or old holiday string lights through Jan. 31 at one of three collection stations, including the City of Georgetown Collection and Transfer Station, 250 W.L. Walden Road; Georgetown Municipal Complex, 300-1 Industrial Ave.; or Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth St. Sun City residents may also drop off old or broken string lights at the Cowan Creek Pavilion, 1433 Cool Spring Way, in Sun City. Only string lights will be accepted. The program collected more than 3,440 pounds in 2019. For more information, visit recycle.georgetown.org.



Holiday fire safety

Nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

1. **INSPECT** holiday lights for frayed or pinched wires before putting them up.
2. **WATER** your Christmas tree every day. A dry tree can catch on fire easily.
3. **CONSIDER** using battery-operated flameless candles.
4. **MAKE SURE** lit candles are in stable holders and where they cannot be knocked down easily.

For more information and free fire-safety resources, visit usfa.fema.gov.

Blue Santa

The Georgetown Police Blue Santa program is seeking monetary donations in lieu of unwrapped toys due to COVID-19 restrictions. The program's goal each year has been to ensure every child in need of toys in the community receives special gifts from Blue Santa during the Christmas season, and this year will be no different.

Checks to "CPAAA Blue Santa" should be sent to the Georgetown Police Department, c/o CPAAA Programs, 3500 DB Wood Road, Georgetown, TX, 78628. This year's distribution day will be a drive-through event. For application and donation information, email bluesanta@georgetown.org or visit BlueSanta.Georgetown.org.



CITY EVENTS

Breakfast with Santa

DECEMBER 12

The 20th annual Breakfast with Santa is from 7:30 to 11 a.m. at the Community Center, 445 E. Morrow St. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, participants will be able to drive by and wave at Santa and Georgetown firefighters, but food and drink will not be served. This event is sponsored by the Sun City Rotary, Extended School Enrichment Program, and the Georgetown Fire Department. For more information, visit bit.ly/2H2Pffp.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

CITY OFFICES CLOSED DEC. 24–25 AND JAN. 1

- There is no solid waste or recycling collection on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.
- For customers with pickup days on or after these holidays, solid waste pickup will slide one day for the remainder of that week.

Irrigation systems

SEASONAL CHECK

During the winter months when grasses are dormant, the City encourages you to turn off your irrigation system. You'll save on water and lower your utility bill.

When you turn off your system for the winter, it's also a good time to replace the battery on the controller. For tips on conservation and optimizing your irrigation system, go to gus.georgetown.org/conservation-programs.

Water rate changes

The City hired consultants NewGen Strategies and Solutions to complete a cost-of-service water rate study in summer 2020. The study helped determine the rates and rate structure needed to equitably fund the water utility. According to the analysis, residential rates need to be adjusted to cover the costs associated with operating, maintaining, and expanding a utility. Once approved by City Council, new rates will go into effect Jan. 1, 2021.

Water rates were last adjusted for residential customers in 2014. Nonresidential water rates were changed in 2019. Sewer rates were updated for all customers in 2019. For more information, visit gus.georgetown.org/water/2020-water-rate-study-faq.



Art at the Library

The Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth St., is hosting two art exhibits through Jan. 17. "Follow the Thread" by artist Sally Gradle will be shown in the Bridge and Hall galleries. "Come Closer" by Leslie Kell will be in the Café Gallery and will feature Kell's surreal artworks that use an original technique that synthesizes her artistry in design and photography. For more information about the exhibits and artists, visit library.georgetown.org.



Mobility Georgetown Bond 2021

The City of Georgetown and a citizen advisory committee are considering a bond election for May 2021 to improve mobility throughout Georgetown. We asked residents to share their priorities for the bond in a short survey this summer, and the committee used that feedback to identify specific projects for the bond election. Between Nov. 4 and 30, please visit bonds.georgetown.org to submit your comments about the proposed projects.

Design guidelines to get an update

The Planning Department has begun updating the Downtown and Old Town Design Guidelines, including updates related to allowable materials, commercial signage, demolitions, and residential infill. The update is expected to be complete in May 2021. Visit historic.georgetown.org, email historic@georgetown.org, or call 512-930-3581 for more information.

Collectible Christmas ornament and greeting cards

A limited-edition collectible brass Christmas ornament featuring Austin Avenue on the Square will be available in early November. The cost of the ornament is \$20. The 14th annual ornament sale is a project of the Georgetown Main Street Program. The Main Street Program is also selling holiday greeting cards featuring a watercolor of Austin Avenue by Georgetown artist Rachel Hancock. Ornaments and greeting cards may be purchased at the Visitors Center, 103 W. Seventh St. All proceeds fund Main Street projects and the Façade Fund Grant Program.

