The 12th annual Chase the Chief 5K and Fun Run is planned for March 3. Details will be announced once they have been finalized. To find more information about the Chase the Chief 5K and Fun Run, go to chasethechief.georgetown.org.

Texas Disposal Systems Waste Wizard notification tool
Need a reminder to set out the trash and recycling each week? There's an app for that! Georgetown solid waste and recycling customers can check their collection days, sign up for text or email reminders, and find out how to sort your solid waste and recycling on Texas Disposal Systems' Waste Wizard at texasdisposal.com/waste-wizard.

Cupid’s Chase 5K and Fun Run
The 29th annual Cupid’s Chase 5K and Fun Run will take place on Saturday, Feb. 10, in San Gabriel Park. Participants can register to complete in a 5K run/walk for ages 11 and older, or a children's 1K Fun Run for ages 10 and younger. Find more information, including registration costs, at parks.georgetown.org/cupids-chase.

Winter weather preparedness
As winter approaches, it's crucial to prioritize safety during potential winter weather, especially if power outages occur. To ensure your well-being:

- Stay informed about weather updates and warnings; sign up for emergency notifications at WarnCentralTexas.org.
- Promptly report power outages to the electric company.
- Take proactive measures to stay warm indoors by sealing drafts, layering clothing, and using extra blankets.
- Conserve phone battery by texting instead of calling.
- Avoid opening refrigerators unless necessary.
- Recognize signs of frostbite and hypothermia and avoid unnecessary outdoor activities.
- If using generators, do so outdoors, and never use gas stoves to heat your home.
- Check on your neighbors.
- Stay off the roads if possible.

Follow these guidelines at ready.gov/winter-weather to stay safe and warm during the winter season.

Holiday closings
City offices and facilities will be closed Feb. 19 in observance of Presidents Day. There will be regular solid waste and recycling pickup.

Water Conservation Expo
Hope we see you Saturday, Feb. 24, for our second annual Water Conservation Expo. All are invited to drop by the Georgetown Public Library Friends and Hewlett Rooms any time from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. to learn water conservation tips and meet local vendors and partners in water conservation.

The first 20 folks to register will receive a free at home water conservation kit. There will be door prizes, including a rain barrel.

Check the Water Conservation Initiatives page at gus.georgetown.org/water/conservation-programs for more details.

The Reporter is a publication of the City of Georgetown Communications and Public Engagement Department. Connect with the City at georgetown.org. NOTE: This newsletter was printed Dec. 18. All information is current through that date.

GET MORE INFORMATION
Use the QR code to find additional news from the City of Georgetown and sign up for the Georgetown Weekly.
New pet for the holidays: Get a license and make a plan

Did Santa bring you a new puppy or kitten for Christmas? Here are some important things to remember when caring for your new pet.

Welcome your pet with love and patience:

Give your friend time to acclimate to the new environment – new smells, sights, and sounds. Introduce them to new experiences slowly and be patient as they learn the new routine. Consider working with a trainer to address behaviors before they become a problem.

Leash your pet:

Always leash your pet in public. It is against City ordinances for dogs to be at large in the City limits and for cats that have not been altered or vaccinated to be at large. It is also against City ordinances to chain or tether your dog unless a person is holding the restraint.

License your pet:

All dogs and cats that live within the city limits are required to have an annual city license. The City’s pet license requirement helps keep rabies under control by enforcing the rabies vaccination requirements. The cost of a license is $5 for animals that are spayed or neutered or $20 for unaltered animals. For residents age 65 and older, the license is free if the pet is spayed or neutered. Free licenses are limited to one per person. Licenses may be obtained online, by phone, email, mail, or at the shelter. Visit pets.georgetown.org/licensing-your-pets for more information.

Take care after your pet:

You may not allow an animal to damage private property other than the owner’s property. Pick up after your pet by immediately removing any waste on public or private property and properly disposing of it. Free roaming cats that cause a nuisance while off their owner’s property can be impounded and their owner can be fined.

Establish a relationship with a veterinarian:

Vets are in high demand these days. Don’t wait until you have an emergency to take your pet to a vet. If your pet hasn’t been spayed or neutered, there are low-cost options out there, including through Emancipet and Texas Humane Heroes, if you are able to wait several months. Pro tip: if you adopt from a shelter, the animal will already be vaccinated and spayed or neutered.

Learn more about Georgetown’s animal-related ordinances at pets.georgetown.org/overview/ordinances.

Here are some additional tips to consider this New Year to ensure pets are safe:

• When making an emergency kit for your family, consider your pet’s needs.
• Take a current photo of you and your pet together in case you get separated during a disaster.
• Keep your pet’s microchip registration info up to date.
• Put your name and contact information on your pet’s ID tag.

Learn more at ready.gov/pets.

Neighborhood associations: How to start one and register for notifications from the City

Neighborhood associations are a vital part of creating and maintaining a livable community in Georgetown. They are a valuable tool in helping bring residents together to preserve and enhance the livability of a neighborhood. Associations provide a forum for discussing local and citywide issues, and they often plan activities and projects that are beneficial to the area. Neighborhood associations can also help maintain neighborhood standards through code enforcement and help residents stay informed on city policies and procedures.

Your neighborhood association can register to be notified of land use changes within 300 feet of the boundaries of your established neighborhood association. You can sign up online here: records.georgetown.org/Forms/NANRF. The City meets quarterly with neighborhood leaders. If you would like your neighborhood association leaders to be added to that list, please email pio@georgetown.org.

Spring and summer program registration

The Georgetown Parks and Recreation Department will open enrollment for its spring and summer programs on Feb. 1. Information about classes and other programs can be found at parks.georgetown.org.