

NRH Wishes You a Safe & Happy Holiday Season

The holidays can be a very busy time of year. By taking certain safety precautions you can have both a joyous and safe holiday season.

- Shop during daylight hours. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry. Keep wallets or purses close to you at all times.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of money. Only carry the necessary cash, checks and/or credit card you expect to use.
- If your credit card is lost, stolen or misused contact your lender immediately. Keep a record of all your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages.
- Beware of strangers. "Con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

Report any suspicious activity to North Richland Hills Police Department 817-427-7000. Become an active part of your neighborhood safety by starting or joining a Neighborhood Crime Watch Program. For information about Neighborhood Crime Watch contact the Police Community Services Section at 817-427-7021.

Christmas Tree Recycling

The City of North Richland Hills and Duncan Disposal will be offering a Christmas tree recycling program for residents beginning December 24. To make recycling simple, two convenient options will be available:

- Trees can be dropped off for recycling December 24 through January 10 at Green Valley Park at 7701 Smithfield Road or at the city parking lot at the southeast corner of Rufe Snow Drive and NE Loop 820 (former Library).
- Residents can place Christmas trees curbside for recycling at 7 a.m. on Wednesday, December 30. (Trees that are placed curbside on your normal garbage collection days will be put in the landfill and not recycled.)

In order for trees to be recycled they should be free of tinsel, ornaments, bags, plastic and stands. Mulch from the recycled trees will be available for residents to pick up at the two drop-off locations starting at 10 a.m. on January 10. Please bring your own container and shovel to load the mulch.

The City of North Richland Hills is committed to protecting our natural resources, promoting environmentally-friendly lifestyles and business practices, and encouraging everyone who lives in, works in and visits North Richland Hills to "think green." For more information about recycling in North Richland Hills, please call Neighborhood Services at 817-427-6650.

Don't Drink & Drive

In Texas, someone is hurt or killed in an alcohol related crash every 19 minutes and drunk driving claims five lives every day. Don't let it be you. Don't drink and drive. When attending a party, always designate a non-drinking driver. If you are the host of a holiday gathering, be sure there are non-alcoholic beverages available for guests who are driving. Throughout the holiday season the NRH Police Department will have extra officers on patrol to enforce DWI laws.

Fireworks Illegal in NRH

Setting off fireworks is unsafe and illegal in our community. For the safety of yourself and others, please refrain from using fireworks as a part of your New Year's Eve celebration. During the holidays, the NRH Police and Fire Departments will seize fireworks and issue citations to violators. The citation may carry a fine of up to \$2,000.

The Fire Department also reminds you to install a smoke alarm on every level of your home. Test the batteries every month and change them at least once a year. Develop and practice fire escape and evacuation plans with your family.

Be safe and have a happy New Year!

Welcome New Businesses

Affordable Treasures and More (Antiques/Resale)

7109 Boulevard 26 #1, 817-284-2210

Little Ceasars (Restaurant)

7247 Boulevard 26, 817-788-2600

Min Hur's Tae Kwon Do (Karate Studio)

8509 Davis Boulevard #160, 817-581-8888

Provest Insurance Group (Insurance Office)

8701 Bedford-Eules Road #301, 817-485-9901

Salon Red (Hair Salon)

7956 Davis Boulevard #102, 817-605-7100

Simply Silk Floral Design (Flower Shop)

7305 Boulevard 26 #100, 817-615-7619

The City of North Richland Hills encourages you to support local businesses and shop NRH first!

For a complete list of businesses in our community, visit www.nrhed.com and click on the "Local Business Database" link.

NRH₂O Season Pass Sale

2010 season passes are on sale! By purchasing your season pass early, you'll receive discounts and a special entertainment package with a coupon for a refillable souvenir bottle and in-park coupons including free admission tickets for friends (available while supplies last).

You can purchase your pass by visiting the NRH₂O Family Water Park office which is open Monday thru Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (excluding holidays), or avoid the trip and purchase your season pass online 24/7! For more details, please call 817-427-6500 or visit www.nrh2o.com.

Reminder for Pet Owners

The City of North Richland Hills reminds pet owners to keep pets on leashes while at parks, on walking trails and in neighborhoods. While most pets are very friendly and nice, some residents are likely to be scared if they are approached by a dog they do not know. With your pets on a leash, you will have better control over where they go and who they approach so that others will not be fearful or possibly get hurt.

Also, please pick up after your animals in public areas. Not only does this keep the odor down and the areas clean, but it also helps keep disease from being spread and reduces the number of rodents attracted to the area.

The City does have ordinances pertaining to leashes and picking up after your pets. We ask every pet owner to set an example and be a responsible pet owner and good neighbor so all residents may enjoy our wonderful parks, trails and neighborhoods. If you want to play with your dog off leash, you are welcome to visit Tipps Canine Hollow at 7804 Davis Blvd.

For more information on City ordinances pertaining to pets call the Humane Division at 817-427-6570. For more information on Tipps Canine Hollow please call Parks & Recreation at 817-427-6620.

Water Conservation Tips

Watering our lawns accounts for half or more of all the water we use at home and, according to the experts, most lawns get twice as much water as they really need. Remember that lawns don't need as much water during the cooler seasons. Applying about an inch every two weeks in the fall, and even less in the winter, should be plenty.

Use rain and freeze sensors. They will trigger automatic sprinkler systems to shut off during downpours or when temperatures dip near freezing and they could reduce your outdoor water use by 5 to 10 percent.

Get more water saving tips for your lawn and home at www.savetarrantwater.com.

Watch Citicable NRH on Charter Cable Channel 27, AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 or www.nrhtx.com.

Upcoming Events

Holiday Closings & Trash Schedule

North Richland Hills City Hall and other non-emergency offices will be closed for the holidays on **Dec. 25 and Jan. 1**. Duncan Disposal will not provide garbage and recycling collections on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For each of these holidays, collections will shift to the next day.

Social Media Workshop

Need some ideas about marketing your small business? The North Richland Hills Public Library will be co-hosting a free workshop with the Marketing Twins where you can learn how to create a Social Media Strategy! The workshop will be held on **Tuesday, January 12** at 12:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Randy and Donny Vaughn will show participants how to use blogs, Twitter and Facebook in marketing a small business.

The Library is located at 9015 Grand Ave. No advanced registration is necessary. If you have questions, contact the Library at 817-427-6814 or visit www.marketingtwins.com.

Parenting Solutions Workshop

In collaboration with the Birdville Council of PTA's, the NRH Recreation Center will present the 9th annual Parenting Solutions Workshop on **Saturday, January 23** from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the North Richland Hills Recreation Center. This FREE workshop is a great opportunity for parents to continue their own "parent development" by attending a variety of parenting topic sessions throughout the half day workshop. A keynote session will kick off the day followed by breakout sessions on a variety of topics that can assist parents in their day to day lives.

Pre-registration is preferred. Please email your registration to apekurney@nrhtx.com. Limited childcare space is available for children ages 1-11. Childcare registration deadline is January 20, 2010. The Recreation Center is located at 6720 NE Loop 820. For more information, please call 817-427-6600 or email apekurney@nrhtx.com.

CPR Classes

The North Richland Hills Fire Department has scheduled CPR classes for the following times:

- **January 14** from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- **February 13** from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **March 6** from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The classes will be held at the North Richland Hills Fire Administration Building located at 7202 Dick Fisher Dr. N. The cost is \$25 for Heartsaver CPR and \$35 for Healthcare Provider CPR. The classes are American Heart Association approved and participants will receive a certification card.

To register or get more information, please call David Smith at 817-427-6901 or email dsmith@nrhfd.com.