

Mayor's Message

By Mayor Chris Riley

"Hang onto your hat. Hang on to your hope. And wind the clock, for tomorrow is another day." - E. B. White

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO) - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024

NNO is set on the first Tuesday in October every year to encourage neighbors to meet (and sometimes eat) to strengthen relationships among the neighbors and between the neighborhood and law enforcement. This is important not only for crime prevention, but also in this time of extreme weather events to help support each other during a potential crisis. Several citizens have asked the city to have a registry of seniors who live alone and could be checked on in case of an emergency. City staff has said this is not possible for them to do. National Night Out is a way of not only meeting your neighbors but also identifying neighbors' names, phone numbers, etc. to share with each other if there is a problem.

How do you get started? Decide if you can host this gathering or partner with someone on your block who you can co-host with. It can be **very simple** – just meet on a driveway on your block and ask neighbors to bring their own chairs, food and drink. Register through a QR code on the City's website. Invite your neighbors

through word of mouth or by dropping a notice of the block party at each neighbor's doors. If you host a party, the city will provide you a sign promoting NNO on your block. The City Council members, police and fire department personnel (and city manager) will stop by the various block parties. In the past we had 30+ parties on NNO and it has dwindled down to less than 10. Let's make a HUGE effort this year to improve our numbers and get to know our neighbors to help reduce crime and to help each other in time of an emergency.

CHANGE IS COMING - HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS IN L.V.

Over the last several years, the City Council has approved six housing developments for a total of 585 homes. This includes five garden home sites with variances, allowing smaller lots than the standard R-6 zoning. Council also approved development of 7 duplexes (14 units), next to the Silos on Huebner Road.

Where are the five subdivisions with R-6 variances located? Senna I & II is on approximately 16 acres, which is located on Huebner Road



next to the Leon Valley Elementary School and will include building of 136 homes. Trilogy, located at the corner of Evers and Seneca on 9.1 acres of land, will add 67 homes.

In Seneca West, at 6518 Samaritan, 166 homes will be built on 27 acres. Pending Council approval in August, at Samaritan and Aids, 205 homes will be built on 39 acres. There are still undeveloped pieces of property which may add more homes in the city.

What will be the impact of these developments in our city? First, the City must provide water for future population and land availability, currently estimated at an additional 300 acre feet(a/f) for a total of 2,028 a/f. Today's cost of purchasing 300 a/f (@\$11,500 per a/f) of water is \$3,350,000. The City currently owns 1,758 a/f. Council has directed staff to

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purchase or lease as much water as possible with the \$280,000 we have set aside in our budget. The developer is required to pay impact fees for new construction to help defray water supply costs to the city which is calculated at \$3,612 per home X 585 = \$2,113,020.

Additionally, reconstructing city streets in the two new subdivisions in the Seneca West area (371 new homes), will cost the developer an estimated \$2.6 million and the city's shared infrastructure is \$3.9 million. The city council sold the city's 19 acre property to the developer and will receive \$2 million, leaving the taxpayers a balance of est. \$1 million for the city's infrastructure costs.

Police and Fire personnel will more than likely be added to serve these areas (personnel costs are the highest cost in our city's budget). There will be increased traffic and congestion in the future as a result of the new developments. These homes are projected to sell between \$300,000 - \$450,000, which will bring in more ad valorem taxes to the city's budget, estimated by the developer at \$325,000 annually after the homes are built over the next 3-5 years. The city will be almost built out and it is estimated our population will increase from 11,377 to between 13,000 – 15,000 residents.

LIFE TURNS ON A DIME

On June 10th, I voted at Wonderland Mall for the June 15th Bexar Appraisal District Board runoff. Walking outside to my car, I slipped on a steep sloped walkway. In a split second I was on the ground with my right foot turned

back behind my leg! With the help of a good Samaritan, I got back to my car, drove to a clinic and found out I had broken my right fibula (the outer thin bone on the leg near the ankle). For six weeks I have had to wear a boot, no exercise, no driving, no travel, plenty of pain and limited mobility.

This experience has changed my way of thinking. I am much more empathetic to those who have limited mobility and/or disabled. I am very grateful to my family, friends & neighbors, city & office staff, strangers, doctors who have helped me get back to walking (at this writing, I still have one week left in the boot, have no pain and waiting for physical therapy). I also appreciated the get well wishes from many citizens. Let's take every day and make it the best we can make it. Life is precious.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Natural Area Park is located off the quiet area in Raymond Rimkus Park, close to the Community Garden. There is a .8 mile walking path. You see a lot of deer, pass by the Joseph

Huebner gravesite, and hear birds. Try downloading the free Merlin App from Cornell University and it will help identify the bird songs in the park. On May 5th, eleven bird sounds were detected: Northern cardinal, Carolina wren, Brown-headed cowbird, Northern mockingbird, Swainson's thrush, Beweick's wren, Least flycatcher, Golden-fronted woodpecker, Black-crested titmouse, Great crested flycatcher, and Eastern phoebe. It is also much cooler there in the summer due to the tree cover. There is nothing like being in nature to help relieve stress. If you have children, this is a great alternative to any screen time!

Please Conserve Water - We are in a Drought – Stage 3 Water Conservation – In 2023, the Leon Valley Water Company pumped 4 acre feet over our allotted use, which cost an additional \$1200. Thanks for being conscious about your water use and detecting any leaks you may have.

Sincerely, Chris

Cell: (210) 618-2092

mayorrriley@leonvalleytexas.gov



Northern Mockingbird. Photo by Mark Mayfield



LEON VALLEY



BACK



to
School



SUPPLY DRIVE



What We Need:

Pencils, pens, paper, folders, binders, back-packs, highlighters, crayons, markers, glue, tape, calculators, notebooks, erasers, rulers, sharpies, composition books, scissors, etc.

-Collection Period-
July 15 - Aug 15

-Drop-Off Location-
Fire Department
City Hall
Leon Valley Library



Leon Valley Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Project Description

The purpose of a 2024 Parks and Recreation Plan Update (Plan Update) is to successfully position Leon Valley to meet the needs of current and future residents by improving the current parks and recreation assets and identifying future opportunities.

The process is citizen-driven with public meetings, workshops, stakeholder meetings, and the Parks Board serving as the advisory committee to ensure that the plan reflects the desire and vision of all the citizen.

Recent News

Public Questionnaire - A public questionnaire was launched on July 19th, 2024 to gather input from all citizens.

Please share your feedback by visiting this webpage or clicking below:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/colvmasterparkupdate>

Anticipated Schedule



Community Engagement

A number of methods have been included in the process to gather your input and provide regulate update. These include:

Townhall Meeting / Community Workshop

- Meeting 1 - TBD (coming soon)

Advisory Committee (Parks Commission)

- Meeting 1 -July 11th, 2024, at The Ridge at Leon Valley Park.
- Meeting 2 - September 12th, 2024, at Silo Park.
- Meeting 3 - TBD
- Meeting 4 - TBD

Stakeholder Meetings (one-on-one / focus group interviews)

- 8-10 meetings

Citizen Questionnaire

- Now open! Share your feedback here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/colvmasterparkupdate>
- Questionnaire open July 19th, 2024 thru August 23rd, 2024.

Advisory Committee (Parks Commission) Updates

- **Meeting 1 -July 11th, 2024, at the Ridge Park**
- Summary of discussion
 - The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the project, project schedule, community engagement, and receive feedback from a questionnaire prior to circulating to the public.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact the project manager Melinda Moritz for the City of Leon Valley and Public Works Director at m.moritz@leonvalleytexas.gov.

SUMMER Movie in the Park

AUG

16



**6421 EVERS ROAD
(GRASSY AREA IN FRONT OF
CONFERENCE CENTER FLAG
POLE)**



STAGE 3 WATER RESTRICTIONS



STAGE 3 WATER RESTRICTIONS



City of Leon Valley Moves Into Stage 3 Drought Restrictions

As we continue through this historic drought, I encourage everyone to please do your part in conserving water.

Crystal Caldera, MPA, PhD



CITY MANAGER

Stage 3

1,758-acre feet

The City of Leon Valley owns 1,758-acre feet of Edwards Aquifer water rights

1,143-acre feet

However, with water restrictions in 2023, the City was allowed to pump only 1,143-acre feet.

Stage 3 Water Use Restrictions



325,851 GALLONS

1 acre foot of water = amount of water needed to cover 1 acre of land to a depth of 1 foot. It is equivalent to 325,851 gallons.

Stage 3 Water Use Restrictions



Know your Stage 3 restrictions.

Stage 3 restrictions begin when the aquifer level at the J-17 well drops to six hundred forty (640) feet above mean sea level (msl), based on a 10-day rolling average calculated and determined by the Edwards Aquifer Authority.



Restrictions from Stage 1 and Stage 2 remain in effect unless replaced by Stage 3 rules



Landscape watering allowed only every other week with an irrigation system, sprinkler or soaker hose



Drip irrigation is allowed every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 7-11 AM/ 7-11 PM

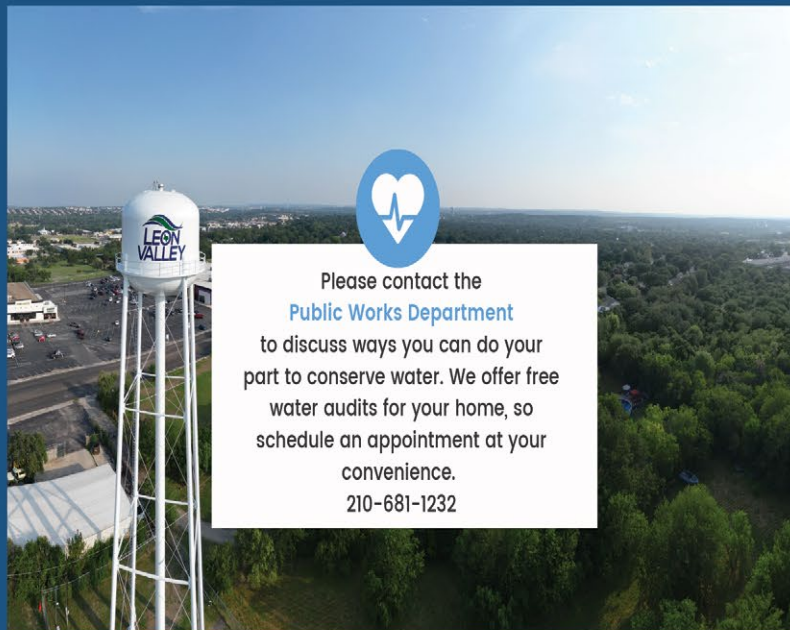


Hotels, motels and other lodging must limit linen/towel changes once every 3 nights, except for health & safety.

Stage 3 Water Use Restrictions



Please contact the **Public Works Department** to discuss ways you can do your part to conserve water. We offer free water audits for your home, so schedule an appointment at your convenience.
210-681-1232



LVPL is a Family Place Library!

The Family Place Libraries™ initiative promotes a national model for transforming public libraries into welcoming, developmentally appropriate, early learning environments for very young children, their parents and caregivers. Based on research about the importance of early brain development, the Family Place Library supports the essential role of parents as first teachers and addresses the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive aspects of child development to help build a foundation for learning



during the critical first years of life. By partnering and working with other social, health, and educational services providers, the Family Place model aims to ensure that all children enter school ready and able to learn and positions libraries as key early childhood and family support organizations within the local community.



Pictured: 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Achiever Maisie and her mom, Monica.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

The concept is simple, and the rewards are priceless. Read a book (any book) to your newborn, infant, and/or toddler. The goal is to have read 1,000 books (yes, you can repeat books) before your precious one starts kindergarten.

Does it sound hard?

Not really if you think about it. If you read just one book a night, you will have read about 365 books in a year. That is 730 books in two years and 1,095 books in three years. If you consider that most children start kindergarten at around 5 years of age, you have more time than you think (so get started).



Preventing Tragedy: Heat Awareness in Leon Valley

Lt. Kasey Tucker

As the relentless Texas summer tightens its grip on Leon Valley, the community faces a critical reminder of the dangers of leaving children and pets unattended in vehicles. With temperatures soaring well above 90 degrees Fahrenheit on a regular basis, vehicles can quickly transform into lethal traps, reaching hazardous temperatures within minutes.

Tragically, 2024 has already seen a number of reported cases across Texas of heat-related deaths, including instances where individuals, particularly children, succumbed to heatstroke after being left alone in vehicles. These incidents underscore the urgent need for awareness and adherence to local laws designed to protect vulnerable individuals.



The ramifications of these tragedies extend far beyond the immediate danger. Heatstroke, even when not fatal, can cause long-term health complications for survivors. For children, the traumatic experience of being trapped in a hot car can leave lasting psychological scars, affecting them into adulthood. Similarly, pets subjected to extreme heat in vehicles face significant risks to their health and well-being, including organ damage or death.

In response to these dangers, the Leon Valley Police Department wants to remind citizens and business owners of the dangers and the ramifications of their choices. It is illegal to leave a child under the age of seven unattended in a vehicle for more than five minutes under any circumstances. Violations of this law carry significant penalties, including fines and possible imprisonment. The city also prohibits leaving pets unattended in vehicles, recognizing their equal susceptibility to heat-related illness and death.



Local authorities stress the importance of immediate action if a child or animal is observed trapped in a hot vehicle. Swift intervention can mean the difference between life and death, as temperatures inside cars can escalate rapidly to deadly levels. Upon witnessing such incidents, residents are urged to call emergency services immediately (911), facilitating prompt rescue and medical attention.

As summer progresses, the community of Leon Valley remains steadfast in its commitment to safeguarding its youngest and most vulnerable members from the perils of extreme heat. Residents can work together to prevent tragic outcomes and ensure a safer environment by raising awareness, enforcing protective measures, and promoting responsible behavior. The long-lasting implications of these incidents highlight the critical need for vigilance and proactive measures to protect lives and prevent irreversible harm.



LV NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

06:00PM-9:00PM



Register
Your Neighborhood
Today!
Deadline to Register:
Sept. 13



Host a neighborhood block party, meet your neighbors, and connect with local law enforcement to promote a safer, stronger community during LV Night Out.

Contact Us

 lvnightout@leonvalleytexas.gov



Spring Clean-up Week

Place items at the curb September 9 - September 13, 2024



Tiger Sanitation will pick up bulky items such as old furniture, water heaters, appliances and brush.

Collection Begins on September 16, 2024 at 7:00a.m.

*Collection vehicles will pass down each street only once and will proceed until the entire City has been collected.
All commercial tree trimmers are required to haul away all trimmings.*

Simple guidelines that will help you prepare for a safe and successful clean-up.

DO

DO place bulky waste items in an area clear of obstacles, away from fences, fire hydrants or gas and water meters.

DO place discarded items and brush at your normal pick-up location(s).

DO Stack brush with the butt ends pointing in the same direction and separate brush from bulky items. Remember to promptly paint all tree wounds.

DO have Freon properly removed and disposed from refrigerators and air conditioners and properly tagged by a qualified Freon disposal technician.

DO limit amount to be picked up to 8 cubic yards - (6ft. x 12ft. x 3ft.). See diagram below. Any volume over 8 cubic yards will be at an additional charge to the resident.

DO NOT

DO NOT mix scrap iron, wire or any other metal objects with brush and shrubbery.

DO NOT put out TVs, commercial or industrial waste, construction material, tires, batteries, oil, paint, or other household hazardous waste. These items will not be picked up.

DO NOT place discarded items on vacant lots or commercial establishments.

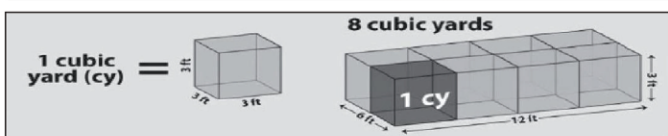
DO NOT block sidewalks.

DO NOT place discarded items under low hanging tree limbs.

DO NOT block piles with parked vehicles.

DO NOT wait until September 14th to put your items out for collection. You could miss the collection for your street.

Visual Representation of Eight (8) Cubic Yards



Thanks! Together, we can keep Leon Valley clean!

For information, contact Public Works, 210-681-1232.





Leon Valley City Hall
6400 El Verde Road
Leon Valley, TX 78238

PRSRTD STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN ANTONIO, TX
PERMIT NO. 1001



CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor** Chris Riley
mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 1** Benny Martinez
benny.martinez@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 2** Josh Stevens
josh.stevens@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 3** Philip Campos
philip.campos@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 4** Rey Orozco
rey.orozco@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 5** Will Bradshaw
will.bradshaw@leonvalleytexas.gov

LION'S ROAR

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Leon Valley, Texas 78238
(210) 684-1391, x 228

CITY STAFF

- City Manager**
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210-684-1391 x 219
- City Secretary**
Saundra Passailaigue
210-684-1391 x 216
- Finance Department**
Carol Goering, Director
210-684-1391 x 223
- Planning & Zoning Department**
Mindy Teague, Director
210-684-1391 x 234
- LV Public Library**
Regina Reed, Director
210-684-0720, x 240
- Fire Department**
Michael Naughton, Fire Chief
210-684-3219, x 281
- Police Department**
David Gonzalez, Police Chief
210-684-1391, x 255
- Public Works**
Melinda Moritz, Director
210-681-1232, x 203
- HR Director**
Lisa Hernandez
210-681-1391, x 212
- Community Relations Director**
Crystal Miranda
210-681-1391, x 228

CITY MEETINGS

All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise specified. All meetings subject to change due to Covid-19

- City Council**
1st & 3rd Tuesday - 6:30 p.m.
- Board Of Adjustment**
Meets as required
- Citizens Police Advisory Committee**
Quarterly, 3rd Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.
- Coffee with the Mayor**
Quarterly, 4th Saturday - 9 -11 a.m.
- Earthwise Living Committee**
2nd Wednesday -
5:30 p.m. City Hall
- Economic and Community Development Advisory Committee**
Meets as needed
- Library Board**
2nd Tuesday - 5:30 p.m. - Library
- Park Commission**
2nd Thursday - 6:30 p.m. -
Conference Center
- Planning & Zoning Commission**
4th Tuesday - 6:30 p.m.

CITY NUMBERS

Keep these numbers handy

- Emergency Number for POLICE, FIRE and EMS** 911
- City Web Site Address**
www.leonvalleytexas.gov
- City Hall** 210-684-1391
- Animal Control & Code Compliance** 210-684-6557
- Non-Emergency Fire** 210-684-8897
- Police** 210-684-3219
- Human Resources** 210-684-1391
- Dead Animal Pickup** 210-684-6557
- Public Works** 210-681-1232
- Library** 210-684-0720
- Tiger Sanitation** 210 333-4287
- Community Center Rental** 210-684-1391 ext. 228

City Hall, non-emergency Police and Fire operations may be contacted at the above numbers Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays.
Public Works Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

