



Don't Forget to Count Your Blessings!

Will Bradshaw

Leon Valley City Council – Place 5

Several years ago, I was on a work trip in Thailand where they had just experienced weeks of non-stop torrential rain. The rain was so severe that many people had to evacuate their homes and businesses due to unprecedented flooding. Many people lost their homes and almost all of their possessions. The company I was working for at the time had a factory in a city named Ayutthaya, one of the hardest areas hit by the flooding.

The factory had to be relocated from its current location to a building in the mountains due to the massive floods. The entire first floor of the factory was completely underwater! Employees of the company moved the equipment to higher ground using boats and then by truck to the new factory several hours away. I was there to help coordinate the movement of equipment and materials and to ensure that

production could continue. It was a very humbling assignment.

When Sunday came around, I decided to attend a local church service. It was a small congregation, and the people were very welcoming to me. I did not speak much Thai, but I thought it would be a good experience. I could hardly contain my emotions when these people who had lost almost everything started singing the opening hymn which I recognized immediately by the melody. The first verse starts, "When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed, when you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, count your many blessings; name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done."

As we go through this new year, there will be challenges and sorrows. There will also be many things to celebrate and opportunities to bless others. I hope all of us remember to look at all that we have been blessed with and don't forget to count our blessings!

[New Housing Developments in Leon Valley!](#)

You may have noticed several new

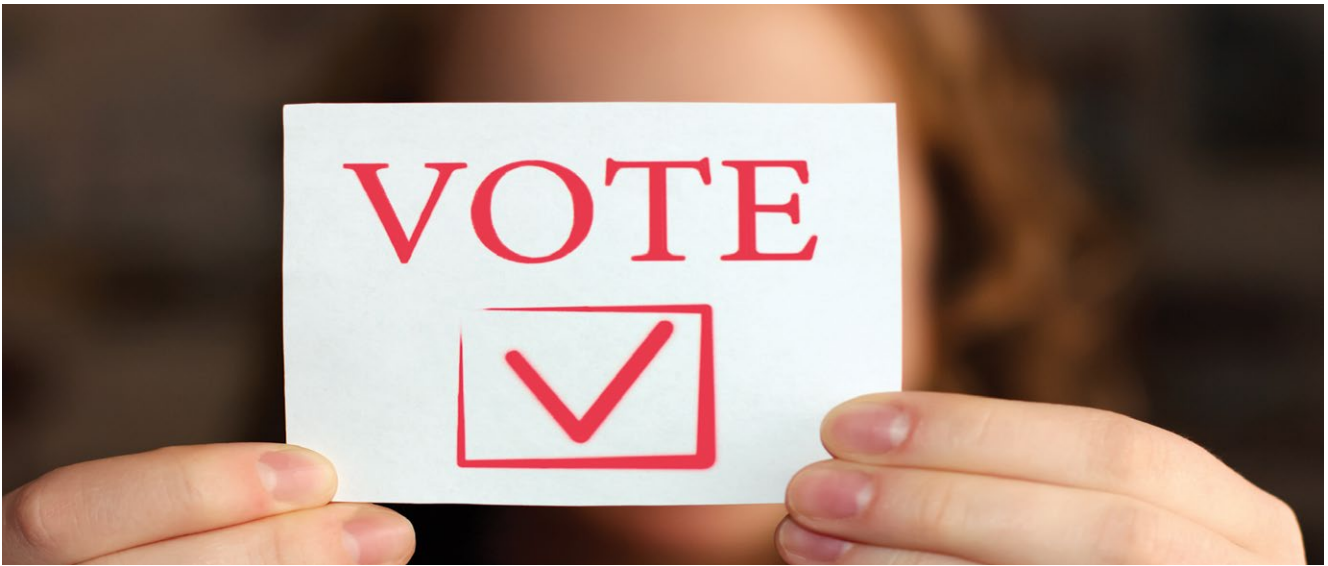
housing developments starting construction in Leon Valley. The first one is on Huebner Road between Evers and Bandera which will be known as the Poss Landing subdivision and is expected to have 86 homes when completed. There is another development on the corner of Evers and Seneca which will be known as the Trilogy subdivision and is expected to have 67 homes. There is also a 21-acre property that the city owns near Samaritan Dr in the William Rancher neighborhood which is still pending a decision on development as of this writing.

[Earthwise Living Day](#)

Save the Date! The 34th Annual Earthwise Living Day Event is Saturday, March 2, 2024. Plan to attend a fun-filled, educational day!

[City Elections](#)

Don't forget to vote! The May 04, 2024, General Election, to elect City Council members to Place 2, Place 4 and to the Office of Mayor, will be held at the Leon Valley Conference Center, located at 6421 Evers Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238.



May 04, 2024 General Election – Voting Calendar

Early Voting will be held at the Leon Valley Conference Center

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	April 22 nd 8 am – 6 pm	April 23 rd 8 am – 6 pm	April 24 th 8 am – 6 pm	April 25 th 8 am – 6 pm	Closed No voting	April 27 th 8am – 8 pm
April 28 th 12 pm (noon) – 6 pm	April 29 th 8 am – 8 pm	April 30 th 8 am – 8 pm	May 1 st No voting	May 2 nd No voting	May 3 rd No voting	May 4 th ELECTION DAY 7 am – 7 pm

*For a complete list of poll sites please visit Bexar County Elections Department at <http://elections.bexar.org/index.html>

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED IN LEON VALLEY TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION.

Please be reminded that April 4, 2024 is the last day for unregistered applicants to submit a federal postcard application. You are welcome to contact the City Secretary (210) 684-1391 extension 216 for assistance with voter registration or any other questions you may have.

Voting by mail has been available to elderly voters and voters with physical disabilities in Texas for decades. **Applications for a ballot by mail must be submitted to the Bexar County Elections Department no earlier than 2 months before Election Day and no later than 9 days before.**

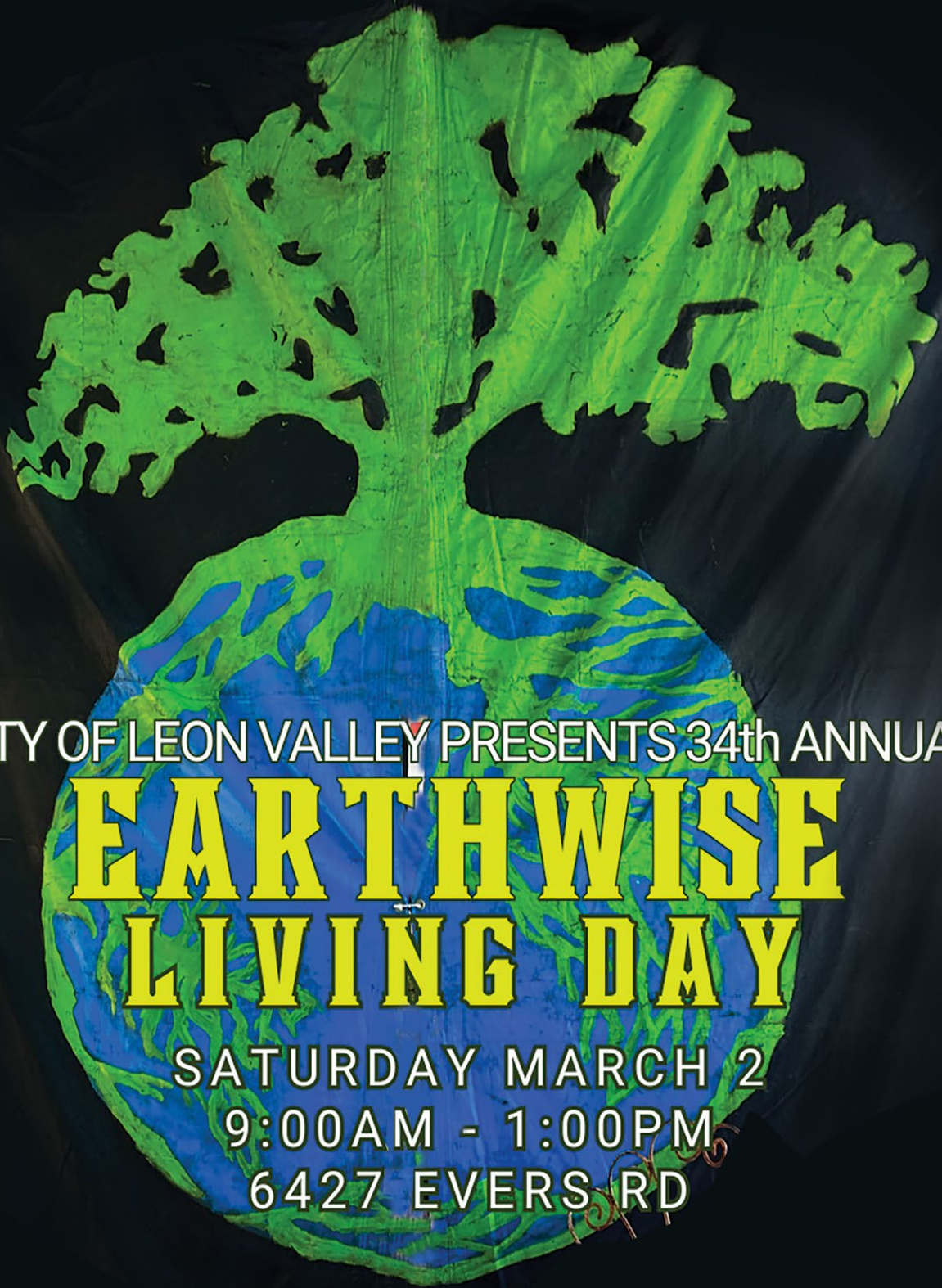
You may vote by mail if you are:

- Going to be away from your county on Election Day and during early voting
- Sick or disabled
- 65 years of age or older on Election Day
- Confined in jail, but eligible to vote

Please complete and return your application between 60 days and 9 days prior to the election for which a ballot is requested. Applications are available at City Hall or for further information, please call (210) 335-0362.

Bexar County Elections Department must receive your marked ballot by **7 p.m. on Election Day.**

Resiliency in a Changing Climate



CITY OF LEON VALLEY PRESENTS 34th ANNUAL

EARTHWISE LIVING DAY

SATURDAY MARCH 2

9:00AM - 1:00PM

6427 EVERS RD

Accepting Applications

email: c.miranda@leonvalleytexas.gov

Non-Fire Cooking Burns



Most burns associated with cooking in 2013-2017 were caused by contact with a hot object or liquid rather than by fire or flame.

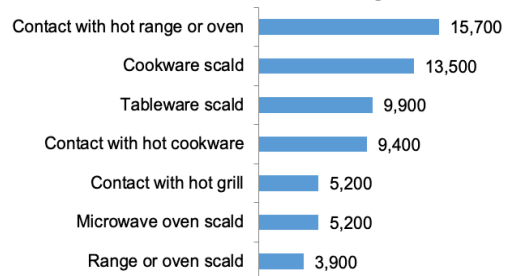
TIPS

- Ranges or ovens were the most common cooking equipment involved in non-fire cooking burns. Only 14% of thermal burns involving ranges or ovens were due to fire or flame.
- Although tableware is not itself used for cooking, it often holds very hot food, soups or drinks, and may itself be very hot.
- Keep hot foods and liquids away from table and counter edges.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet (1 meter) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.
- Never hold a child while you are cooking, drinking a hot liquid, or carrying hot foods or liquids.

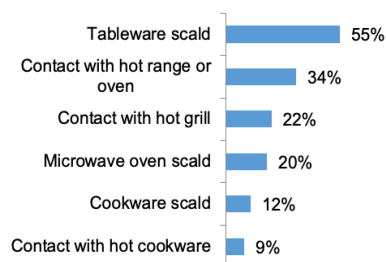
FACTS

- Children under five face a higher risk of non-fire cooking burns. These young children account for 6% of the population but much larger percentages of non-fire burn injuries from cooking equipment, tableware such as bowls and cups, and cookware such as pots and pans.
- In contrast to the non-fire burn estimate, reported home structure fires caused by cooking killed 530 people and injured 5,270 people. This was a fraction of total burn injuries caused by cooking, hot food, or hot drinks. Children under five accounted for only 6% of home cooking fire deaths and 3% of home cooking fire injuries. Cooking was still the leading cause of home fire injuries in the under 5 age group.

Non-Fire Cooking Burns Seen at Emergency Departments 2013-2017 Annual Averages



Percent of Non-Fire Cooking-Related Burns Seen at Emergency Departments in 2013-2017 by Children under Five



Source: Data from the Consumer Product Safety Commission's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, queried in October 2018.



**BURN
PREVENTION**

American Burn Association
312-642-9260
www.ameriburn.org

Improving the lives of those
affected by burn injuries

#NBAW
**National Burn
Awareness Week**
FEBRUARY 4-10, 2024



Do you want to know how your tax dollars were spent? City Manager Crystal Caldera invites you to delve into the latest Annual Report, providing insights into our community's achievements, initiatives, and progress throughout the fiscal year of 2023

"This report serves as a compilation of numerous accomplishments across various departments, made possible through the unwavering commitment, collaboration, and leadership exhibited by our exceptional teams". - City Manager, Dr. Crystal Caldera





THE 29TH ANNUAL

BASURA BASH

River And Waterway Clean-Up

Register online to join the clean-up nearest you!
Community service vouchers available!



WWW.BASURABASH.ORG

TRIBUTARIES

- Alazan Creek - COSA District 1
- Alazan Creek - COSA District 5
- Comanche Park - Bexar County
- Culebra Creek - COSA D6, Standard Aero
- Indian Creek - COSA District 4
- Leon Creek at Buddy Calk - COSA District 8
- Leon Creek at OP Schnabel
- Leon Creek at Rodriguez Park - Bexar County
- Martinez Creek Trailway
- Maverick Creek at UTSA
- McAllister Park
- Salado Creek at San Antonio Int. Airport
- Salado Creek - COSA District 10
- Salado Creek - JBSA Fort Sam Houston
- Salado Creek at Walker Ranch
- Salado Creek at Wilshire Terrace
- San Antonio River at Headwaters
- San Antonio River - River Warriors
- San Antonio River at River Road
- Zarzamora Creek - Leon Valley
- Olmos Creek - SAWS
- Olmos Creek near LEE High School

2024 SPONSORS



SILVER EAGLE
BEVERAGES



Our Texas
Our Future
H-E-B



StandardAero

Cavender

COLLISION
CENTER

WM. HDR

ALAMO NEX
CONSTRUCTION



big city
small town



Winter Sewer Averaging

Just a reminder that sewer rate averaging takes place from November to March, so please use the least amount of water as possible during this period (and remind members of your household to do the same!), to keep your sewer rates low for the next year.

LEON VALLEY OFFERS FREE HOME WATER AUDITS

What is Home Water Audit?

A Home Water Audit is an assessment of how much water is used and how much water can be saved in the home. Conducting a water audit involves helping calculate water use and identifying simple ways for saving water in the home.

What are the Benefits of conducting a Home Water Audit?

Conducting a water audit can help you save money by reducing your water bill, making you aware of how you use your water, and helping you identify ways you can minimize water usage by implementing simple conservation measures without drastically modifying your lifestyle.

How do I request a Home Water Audit?

To request your personal Home Water Audit appointment, please call the Public Works Department at 210-684-1391 ext. 224.

Winter Prep – Protect the Pipes!

October and November are the best months to prepare your home for the sometimes-freezing South Texas winter. Wrap exposed pipes, insulate pipes that run along exterior walls, cover all outside spigots, and replace any damaged or missing weather strips. Other items to consider for your winter preparations include:

- Have your heating system inspected
- Install a carbon monoxide (CO) detector in your home
- Assure your smoke detectors are in good working order
- Clean out gutters and repair any roof leaks
- Have the chimney cleaned and inspected
- Have a safe alternative heating source at the ready

Cooking Safety for Older Adults

WATCH WHAT YOU HEAT

Cooking is the number one cause of home fires

PLAN A: PRIMARY PREVENTION

- The best time to cook is when you are wide awake, and not drowsy from medications or alcohol.
- Always wipe clean the stove, oven, exhaust fan to prevent grease buildup.
- Wear short or close-fitting sleeves when cooking.
- Keep a pan lid and dry potholders or oven mitts near you EVERY time you cook.
- Cook on the back burners of the stove when possible.
- Turn pot or pan handles toward the back of the stove.
- When heating food in the microwave, use microwave-safe cookware that allows steam to escape.
- Allow food to rest before removing from the microwave.
- When frying, use a pan lid or splash guard to prevent grease splatter.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly. Remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you to check on your cooking.
- After cooking, check the kitchen to make sure all burners and other appliances are turned off.

PLAN B: SECONDARY PREVENTION

If your food does catch on fire...

1. Cover the pan with its lid. A cookie sheet works too. Leave covered until the pan is cool. NEVER move the pot or carry it outside - the pot is too hot to handle and the contents may splash, causing a severe burn.
2. Turn the heat off. With the lid on and the heat off, the fire should quickly put itself out. NEVER use water to put out a kitchen fire. Water will cause the oil to splatter and spread the fire, or scald you as it vaporizes.
3. If the fire is inside the oven or microwave, keep the door shut and turn it off. Keep closed until the oven is cool.
4. If the fire gets out of control- get out, stay out and call 9-1-1. Don't return inside for any reason.

STATS

- 47% of all home fires are caused by cooking
- Adults >65 are at much higher risk of injury and death from a kitchen fire due to physical, visual, hearing or mental impairments that may slow the quick action necessary in a fire emergency.
- Thinner skin of older adults burn faster and deeper.
- Preventing a burn injury is always better than the pain and trauma of medical treatment afterward.



**BURN
PREVENTION**

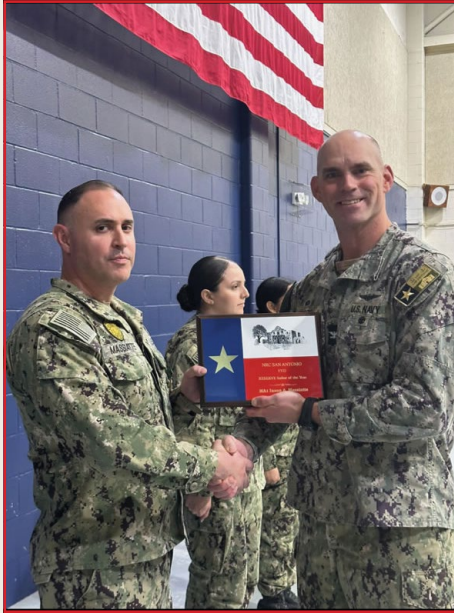
American Burn Association
312-642-9260
www.ameriburn.org

Improving the lives of those
affected by burn injuries

#NBAW

**National Burn
Awareness Week**

FEBRUARY 4-10, 2024



Master-At-Arms First Class Jason A. Massiatte Named FY23 Sailor of the Year at Naval Reserve Center-San Antonio

In a commendable achievement, Master-At-Arms First Class Jason A. Massiatte, who is a detective with the Leon Valley Police Department has been honored with the distinguished title of Sailor of the Year at Naval Reserve Center (NRC) San Antonio for Fiscal Year 2023. This accolade is a testament to MA1 Massiatte's outstanding dedication, leadership, and exemplary service within the Naval Reserve community.

Balancing Military and Civilian Responsibilities:

In addition to his military responsibilities, MA1 Massiatte is a full-time employee of the City of Leon Valley, serving in the Criminal Investigations Division within the Leon Valley Police

Department. His ability to balance both military and civilian roles showcases his dedication to public service and his community.

Competing at the Highest Level:

The Sailor of the Year award at NRC San Antonio is a highly competitive recognition, and eligibility requires prior selection as Sailor of the Quarter within a two-year period. MA1 Massiatte, having earned the Sailor of the Quarter distinction, demonstrated sustained excellence and commitment to duty. Competing against his peers from ten other units within Naval Reserve San Antonio, he showcased exceptional qualities that set him apart.

Dedication to Training Excellence:

MA1 Massiatte's journey to this prestigious award is marked by his role as the Training Section's Leading Petty Officer for Naval Air Station (NAS) Kingsville. In this capacity, he played a pivotal role in preparing and training both Active Duty and Reserve components in Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) and Active Shooter training. The success of NAS Kingsville's annual Exercise Citadel Shield can be attributed to MA1 Massiatte's commitment to training, ensuring the readiness of the naval forces.

Leadership Beyond the Call of Duty:

Currently serving as the Unit Leading Petty Officer for NSA Bahrain Det B, MA1 Massiatte oversees seventy-three naval members, ensuring their readiness for mission success. His leadership and organizational skills have contributed significantly to the unit's effectiveness and preparedness.

Master-At-Arms First Class Jason A. Massiatte's selection as the Sailor of the Year is a source of pride not only for him but also for the entire Naval Reserve Center in San Antonio. His achievements exemplify the highest standards of excellence, commitment, and leadership within the U.S. Naval Reserve. We congratulate MA1 Massiatte on this well-deserved honor and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

Park Etiquette - Please Do Your Part!

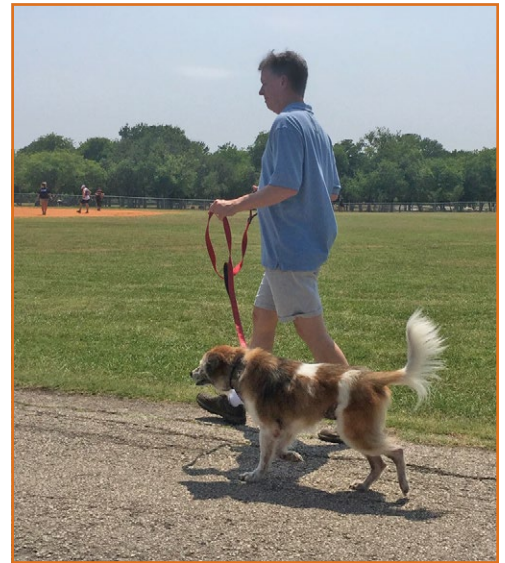
Leon Valley's Raymond Rimkus Park is the place to be on the weekend, especially in the spring and summer months. There is a bustle of activities including soccer, softball, volleyball, barbeques in the pavilions, children playing on the playground and much more. The new neighborhood parks also have a lot of amenities for residents to enjoy.

As everyone is enjoying our parks, it is important to remember to be respectful of others and not block the walking paths with shade structures, chairs, coolers, bikes, vehicles, or other miscellaneous items.

Additionally, all pets must be kept on a leash at all times while visiting the parks and pet waste must be removed and disposed of properly.



One of the most common complaints we receive is about dog owners not picking up after their pets. Dog waste stations have been installed at most locations for your convenience. Dogs are not allowed in the Huebner-Onion Natural Area Park, as they can and do disturb the deer and other wildlife. Also not allowed in the Huebner-Onion Natural Area Park is smoking of any kind. The natural environment in the park can easily catch fire, as the grass becomes dry and flammable during the heat of summer and in the winter when the grass and other vegetation is dead.



Finally, please remember to be good stewards of the environment/park and pick up after yourself and others if necessary. Recycle your plastic water bottles and soda cans and throw away any non-recyclable trash.

For more park information, please visit our website at www.leonvalleytexas.gov.

HB 3186 Texas Youth Diversion and Early Intervention Act

On the heels of the 88th Legislative Session several bills were effective September 1st, 2023. HB 3186 Texas Youth Diversion and Early Intervention Act became effective January 1st, 2024. This bill requires Leon Valley Municipal Court to adopt and implement a youth diversion plan no later than January 1st, 2025. The objective of the bill is to accomplish:

1. Through intervention, reduce recidivism and problem behaviors without having to criminally adjudicate children in the municipal court.
2. Identify at risk youth and where appropriate, make a referral to early youth and intervention services.
3. Authorize diversions for children charged with certain offenses punishable by fine and emphasize accountability of the parent and child for the child's conduct while promoting community safety.
4. Increase collaboration between governmental, educational, and non-profit organizations in devising local diversion strategies in our municipality.

The changes will help youth with "gateway" offenses obtain the necessary services to be better citizens in their future and in our community.

Spring Clean-up Week

Place items at the curb February 19 ~ February 25, 2024



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

Collection Begins on February 26, 2024 at 7:00 a.m.

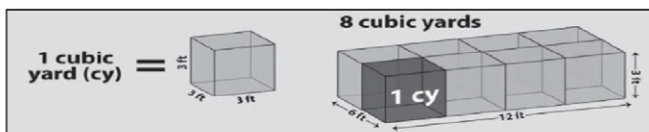
Collection vehicles will pass down each street only once and will proceed until the entire City has been collected. All commercial tree trimmers are required to haul away all trimmings.

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.

Visual Representation of Eight (8) Cubic Yards



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 February 26th to put your items out for collection. You could miss the collection for your street.

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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The Lion's Roar
City of Leon Valley - 6400 El Verde Road
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.

