



City General Election

The City of Carrollton will hold a General Election and Special Election on Saturday, May 4 to elect Council places 1, 3, 5, and 7 and to consider proposed changes to the Charter. For more information, visit the link below.

La Ciudad de Carrollton realizará una Elección General y una Elección Especial el sábado 4 de mayo, para elegir los escaños 1, 3, 5, y 7 del Concejo Municipal, y considerar cambios propuestos a los estatutos municipales. Para más información, visite el siguiente enlace.

Thành phố Carrollton sẽ tổ chức Cuộc Tổng tuyển cử và Bầu cử Đặc biệt vào Thứ Bảy, ngày 4 tháng 5 để bầu ra các Vị trí Hội đồng 1, 3, 5, và 7 cũng như xem xét những thay đổi được đề xuất đối với Hiến chương. Để biết thêm thông tin, hãy truy cập liên kết bên dưới.

cityofcarrollton.com/elections

Water Rate Increase

Reminder: A utility rate increase went into effect in early January of this year due to increasing costs from the City's water and wastewater treatment providers, as well as the need to fund essential infrastructure improvements to maintain a safe, efficient water system.

While the actual impact to each customer varied based on usage levels, the average increase was approximately 5 percent. Example: A residential customer who uses 10,000 gallons of water per month will see a \$3.67 per month increase.

cityofcarrollton.com/news

2023 Highlights & Milestones

Below are some of the successes that make Carrollton the community families and businesses want to call home.

- Enhanced emergency calls with livestreaming service, Prepared 911
- Fitch and S&P reaffirmed the City's 'AAA' long-term GO bond rating
- Carrollton Fire Rescue (CFR) recognized as Emergency Medical Services Provider of the Year by Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital in Plano
- Received the Bronze level designation by Cigna Healthy Workforce Designation™
- New Chief of Police sworn in
- Council increased the senior and disabled homestead tax exemptions to \$87,000
- Featured in an article by *D Magazine* about the sweetest 'burbs for a perfect day trip or a brand new life'
- Reduced property tax rate for the 10th year in a row
- Carrollton Animal Services & Adoption Center found forever homes for 467 animals
- CFR trained 6,970 citizens in CPR
- Marketing Services received 10 state and national communication awards
- Ranked as one of the top 10 cities nationwide in LendEDU's Best Cities to Start a Family report
- CFR won the American Heart Association Mission: Lifeline® EMS Gold Award for the seventh year in a row
- More than 670K physical and digital materials borrowed from the Carrollton Public Library (CPL)
- Donations of more than \$18k supported animals at Adoption Center
- 49 pints of blood donated during the Battle of the Badges blood drive
- Unveiled the City's fourth state-of-the-art Dream Court™ at Ward Steenson Park
- Destroyed more than 1,100 lbs. of pharmaceuticals for Drug Take Back
- Received the City's fourth Gold Fleet award from the DFW Clean Cities Coalition
- Parks & Recreation received the Texas Recreation & Park Society Programming Achievement Award
- Fitch reaffirmed the waterworks and sewer system revenue funding
- Summer Reading Challenge participants read 3,310,249 minutes
- Completed 53 City projects with General Funds and 13 with Community Development Block Grants
- 676 animals reunited with their owners
- Completed redesign of Pioneer Park mural in Downtown Carrollton
- Ranked as one of the top 50 cities nationwide by WalletHub
- Partnered with KultureCity® to make six City facilities Sensory Inclusive™
- Broke ground on EVIVA Trinity Mills, largest TOD project in Metroplex
- Received the prestigious national Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting
- CPL received a State grant for national initiative supporting families with children
- Dismantled the old Josey Lane water tower

cityofcarrollton.com/news



Prevent Mosquito Breeding Grounds

Did you know it takes a mosquito approximately 8-10 days to develop from egg to biting adult? Follow the tips below to reduce your chances of being bitten and to avoid disease.

- Empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out any items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpot saucers, pet bowls, or trash containers.
- Tightly cover water storage containers.
- Use a tight mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito on pipes.
- Fill tree holes to prevent them from filling with water.
- Repair water leaks.
- Add BTI insecticide to permanent standing water.
- Clean all drains and gutters.
- Ensure doors and windows are sealed properly and that screens are in place.

Call Animal Services to report standing water and stagnant pools. And don't forget to practice the 4Ds for protecting against mosquitoes:

- **Drain** standing water.
- Minimize **Dusk and Dawn** activities.
- **Dress** in long, loose, light-colored clothing when outside.
- **Defend** against mosquitoes by applying an EPA-approved repellent when outdoors.

📞 972-466-3420
cityofcarrollton.com/westnilecdc.gov

Leaks Can Run, but They Can't Hide

Are you ready to chase down leaks? Household leaks can waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water annually nationwide, so hunt down the drips inside and outside your home during Fix a Leak Week, March 18-24, to save valuable water and money all year long.

📞 cityofcarrollton.com/water
epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week

Spring Trimming is Around the Corner

Trimming vegetation is one of the most effective ways residents can enhance traffic safety throughout neighborhoods.



Overgrown trees and brush endanger everyone when they block the view of traffic signs, pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

Did You Know?

- Care and maintenance of the trees in the City's right-of-way is the responsibility of the property owner.
- Property owners may be held responsible for any damages caused by low hanging tree limbs and vegetation over the roadway and sidewalk.
- Owners may be held responsible for any vegetation that is knowingly obstructing a regulatory sign and results in an accident or damages.

Current Requirements for Clearance

Carrollton's Code of Ordinances requires tree/brush limbs clearance of 12 feet above and one foot back from the street or alleyway. Tree limbs over the sidewalk must be cut up to a height of 7 feet. Low hanging limbs over the roadway are dangerous to drivers and can interfere with providing fast and effective City services for paramedic, fire, and trash and recycling collection. **A good rule of thumb:** If tree growth is below the height of the streetlights located along the street, then they need to be trimmed.

Sight Obstructions of Regulatory Signs

If there is a regulatory sign (stop, speed limit, school or park zone, etc.) located in front of the owner's property, keep in mind that regular trimming is needed to ensure vegetation does not obscure the sign for the motoring public. **A good rule of thumb:** If the full sign cannot be seen from three to four property lots away (approx. 150-200 feet), then the vegetation needs to be trimmed.

Help keep Carrollton friendly for pedestrians and drivers by maintaining trees and shrubs. For questions concerning road, sidewalk, or sign clearance, contact Environmental Services.

📞 972-466-5727
cityofcarrollton.com/envservices

Want Fresh Eggs in the Morning?

Did you know chickens are allowed in Carrollton? To legally keep chickens on a residential lot, a resident must apply for an annual permit and comply with the following requirements.

- Keep up to six chickens; **NO roosters.**
- A residential chicken coop must meet all regulations; chickens cannot be allowed to roam freely.
- Chicken excrement must be removed and disposed of in an approved waste container at least once every 48 hours.
- Chickens or eggs cannot be sold from the property.
- Deceased chickens may not be processed in any area visible from a public right-of-way.

📞 cityofcarrollton.com/animalservices



New Year, New Goals, New Resolutions

Whether your plans are to save money, get healthier, or spend more time with family, the City is here to help.

Resolutions don't always have to begin with the New Year, but when they do, the City of Carrollton can provide support in reaching those goals.

If the resolution is to make and stick to a budget, start investing, pay off debt, or prepare for retirement, Carrollton Public Library offers money smart classes to educate and assist along the way.

With more than 30 trail miles, a wide variety of affordable fitness classes, numerous adult and youth sports programs, two recreation centers, and one senior center, Carrollton Parks & Recreation can help not only meet, but also exceed those fitness goals.

Want a new job for 2024? Visit cityofcarrollton.com/jobs and join the Carrollton team. Whether it's saving lives, improving roadways, maintaining parks, or



protecting residents, City employees inspire growth throughout Carrollton every day.

If giving back and making a difference in your community is your goal, volunteer to assist with any of our most popular programs at the A.W. Perry Homestead Museum, Senior Center, Animal Services & Adoption Center, Library, or Environmental Services.

 cityofcarrollton.com



Are You 50 or Older?

For less than 7¢ a day (based on an annual residential senior membership ranging from \$10 to \$25), individuals 50 years of age and older can take advantage of the following amenities and offerings at the Carrollton Senior Center:



Fitness Center



Movie Mondays



Special Luncheons



Classes & Seminars



Blood Pressure & Sugar Screenings



Notary Service



Interest Groups & Activities

Art Group, Book Club, Drama Group, Guitar Jam Sessions, Jazz & Blues Sessions, Knit & Crochet Group, Quilting Group, Reunión Hispana, Red Hat Society, Sing-Along Group, and more

Games & More

Billiard Tables, Books, Chair Volleyball, Ping-Pong, Puzzles, Table Games, and Texas Hold 'Em Tournaments



Additional activities, classes, and services are also available at a minimal cost.

Attend a free tour (Monday-Friday, 2-3 p.m.) to learn more about all the Senior Center has to offer.

 cityofcarrollton.com/seniorcenter

Egret/Heron Nesting Deterrent Patrol

Beginning mid-March and running through mid-May, Carrollton Animal Services will be patrolling some residential areas of the community to deter egrets and herons from nesting. The City thanks residents in advance for their patience, as many of the tools used (screamers, bangers, and propane cannons) create loud noises and can be disturbing. Report new nesting activity in your neighborhood.

 972-466-3420
cityofcarrollton.com/animalservices

Environmental Leadership Award Winners

Carrollton recognized 10 local companies for their commitments and efforts to ensure a sustainable community.



The City's Environmental Services Department recently recognized industries that consistently complied with industrial pretreatment and stormwater regulations in 2023. Together, these companies have worked hard to make Carrollton a healthier, greener, and more sustainable City, and a community that families and business want to call home.

Environmental Leadership awards were presented at the December City Council meeting to representatives from Century Products, Inc.; Electro Plate Circuitry, Inc.; Image Industries; International



Paper Company – Belt Line Road; QPC (Quality Powder Coating); Quantum Global Technologies; Ralcorp Frozen Bakery Products; Rudy's Tortillas; Swiss American; and Wash Solutions Inc.

From the 10 companies awarded, Century Products, Inc. and Ralcorp Frozen Bakery Products were selected to receive the Environmental Distinction Award for displaying leadership in meeting and exceeding environmental requirements.

 972-466-5727
cityofcarrollton.com/news

7 Steps to a Smart Yard

No matter the starting point, add ease, comfort, and enjoyment to a yard or garden by using native and adapted plants.

March is Texas SmartScape™ Month, a regionally coordinated effort and campaign to promote water conservation, pollution prevention, and composting principles.

1. Plan and Design: Begin with the end goal in mind. Consider family needs and desires when envisioning the perfect yard.

2. Reduce Turf: Less turf means more time to enjoy the lawn, and more money saved due to less watering. Add SmartScape™ flower beds, widen pathways, and use groundcovers where it makes sense.

3. Soil: Organic matter is the key to a solid foundation to help plants thrive. Compost helps to condition the soil, hold moisture, prevent run-off, reduce erosion, and unlock nutrients in the soil.

4. Planting: Use the Texas SmartScape™ plant database to find native and adapted plants that thrive in North Central Texas. They are naturally drought tolerant as well as disease and pest resistant.

5. Mulch: Regularly add mulch to maintain about a 3-inch blanket on beds and around trees to help reduce evaporation and cool the



soil in the summer by up to 10 degrees. Never pile mulch up around trunks or stems, instead it should be like a shallow bowl.

6. Water-Wise: Water in the early morning when evaporation rates are lowest. Look into using drip irrigation, and remember to turn off sprinklers when it rains.

7. Maintenance: Avoid excessive pruning, as natural beauty softens the landscape. If problems arise, try cultural, organic, physical, and mechanical means of pest control instead of chemicals that can harm local bodies of water and the wildlife that rely on them.

Check out the Texas SmartScape™ window displays at both Carrollton Public Library locations for more information.

 **972-466-5727**
cityofcarrollton.com/water
txsmartscape.com



Upcoming Events

C-Con, March 15, 4-8 p.m., Josey Ranch Lake Library – Come as you are or dress up in cosplay. Challenge yourself in an escape room, test your knowledge with a round of trivia, enjoy anime, make crafts, and more. Snacks and craft materials are provided.

Carrollton Health & Safety Fair, March 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Standridge Stadium – Learn about the services provided by Carrollton's Fire Rescue, Police, and Office of Emergency Management. Enjoy attractions and demonstrations, games, free CPR education, informational booths from community health and human services partners, and food vendors. Limited on-site medical services will be provided.

Citizens' Evening, March 27, 6-8:30 p.m., Carrollton Senior Center – Hear the State of the City address presented by Mayor Steve Babick. Learn about development projects around the City and the services provided by various City departments and non-city agencies. Winners of the Carrollton Volunteer Awards will be announced.

Carrollton **Women's First Responder Day, April 20, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Carrollton Senior Center** – Experience a 911 call for service, hear a guest speaker, and learn about the different positions and roles within the Carrollton Police and Fire Rescue Departments. Lunch will be provided.

- March 16: **\$5 Rabies Vaccinations**
- April 8: **Total Solar Eclipse**
- April 12 & 13: Friends of the Carrollton Public **Library Book Sale**
- April 20: **Earth Day Celebration**
- April 20: **Special Needs Spring Bash**
- April 27: **Carrollton Tails & Trails 5K**
- May 4: **May the 4th Be With You**

For more information and a complete list of upcoming events and programs, visit the link below.

 cityofcarrollton.com/events

City Home Improvement Grants

Financial support is available for eligible homeowners.



If your home could benefit from some rehab or replacements, the City offers several grant programs that can assist low to moderate-income homeowners with eligible home repairs to improve safety and health issues. These include the Emergency Repair Grant Program, the Minor Home Repair Program, and the People Helping People Program.*

Need something a little more substantial? Properties located within a Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ) are eligible for specific incentives and programs, as well as other grants through the City's IMPACT (IMProvement in ACTION) initiative. This includes the **waiver of building permit fees** and funding toward the renovation of a property or demolition/rebuild of a home. Other details and exclusions apply.

For all programs, applications must be received and approved before the work begins to be eligible. For more information and to find out if your property is eligible, visit the website below.

**Funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.*

 **972-466-5727**
cityofcarrollton.com/IMPACT