

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

It's Springtime In Texas and Also Severe Weather Season. Please Follow These Tornado Safety Tips.

More tornadoes strike Texas than any other state. They can occur at any time of year, including winter as evidenced by the tornadoes that struck in December, 2015. However, tornadoes are most frequent from mid-March through May. The City of DeSoto Office of Emergency Management reminds you to pay close attention to weather reports and take the following precautions during periods of tornadic activity:

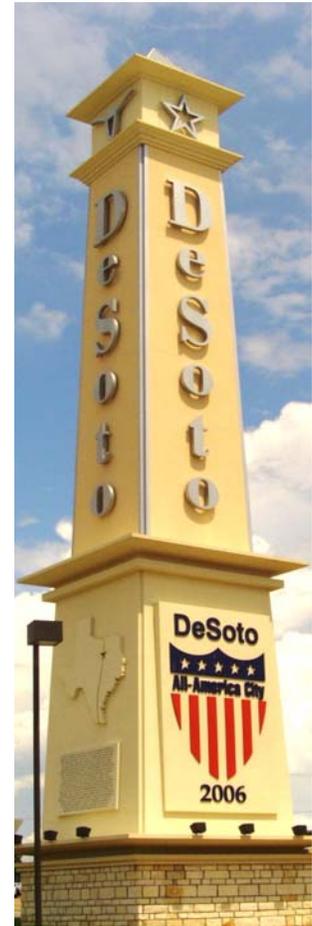
- Seek shelter in an interior room on the lowest floor of your home, such as a bathroom, closet or room without windows. Cover yourself with a mattress or cushions. In an office building, go to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor.
- If you are in a mobile home, get out and take shelter in a nearby building. If no shelter is available, lie flat in a ditch or ravine.
- **Never stay inside a car!** Get out and lie flat in a ditch or a ravine. If a building is nearby, take shelter inside. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car. The fatalities that occurred in Garland during the 2015 tornado event were motorists or passengers in cars in the path of the storm.
- At school, follow plans and go to a designated shelter area, usually interior hallways on the lowest floor. Avoid auditoriums, gyms and areas with wide, free-span roofs.
- In a shopping center, move away from exterior glass walls.
- If you are in open country, take cover in a low spot away from trees.
- Remember there is a difference between a **Tornado Watch** and a **Tornado Warning**. A Tornado Watch means tornadoes are possible in and near the watch area. A Tornado Warning means a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar, and you must **seek shelter immediately!**

The City of DeSoto has outdoor warning sirens that are activated when a tornado is sighted in DeSoto, Cedar Hill or Duncanville. Outdoor warning sirens are to warn

individuals outdoors to seek immediate shelter inside. The sirens may not be heard indoors since most outdoor sounds, including warning sirens, can't penetrate many buildings. When you hear the sirens, go indoors and seek shelter in the most interior room in your home or office. Once you are in a safe location, tune to your local radio or television station for emergency information.

Outdoor warning sirens are a valuable tool in helping to keep the public safe but they should not be the only way that you receive warnings about dangerous weather. The City of DeSoto's Office of Emergency Management suggests additional layers of protection against severe thunderstorms including having a NOAA weather radio in your home and monitoring local radio or television stations for emergency information. The City of DeSoto has "upgraded" our Code Red Alert System to allow you to receive phone notifications 24 hours a day based strictly on Doppler radar. You can now receive warnings for tornados, flash floods or severe thunderstorms. This upgrade requires you to "opt in" and resubmit your information if you would like to receive these Doppler radar special alerts in addition to other emergency notifications previously sent out by the City's CodeRed system. If you are interested in this new upgrade, click on the CodeRed weather warning icon on the City's homepage and follow the directions. There is no charge for this service.

Whether you receive weather information through the local media, a NOAA weather radio in your home or on your cell phone, please heed the notification and act to protect yourself and your family by following these safety tips.



City Calendar

March

2 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
2 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
2 Historical Foundation Mtg. 6 pm
6 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
6 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. 6 pm
7 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
14 Planning & Zoning Mtg.- City Hall -7 pm
21 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
24 Drea Randle Concert - Civic Ctr. 7:30 pm
25 HOA Involvement Event- City Hall 9 am
27 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
28 Planning & Zoning Mtg. City Hall 7 pm

April

3 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6pm
3 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
4 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
6 Historical Foundation Mtg. 6 pm
6 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
6 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
8 Candidate Forum - City Hall - 10 am
8 Recycling Event-Service Ctr.- 9 am
8 Everything Teen Event- Library
8 Easter Egg Hunt Zeiger Park 11 am
11 Planning & Zoning Mtg. -City Hall -7 pm
14 City Offices Closed for Good Friday
18 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
22 Briarwood Youth Fishing Day 9 am
25 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
26 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
28 DHS Jazz Band Concert - Civic Ctr. 7:30pm



The next DeSoto Dining and Dialogue Dinner event will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at

6:30 pm. This dinner event will continue the discussion which began at the Mayor's A Heart To Serve Event in February and will focus on the topic **"Building a Stronger Community."** Attending a DeSoto Dining and Dialogue Dinner event is a great way to get to know your neighbors and help make DeSoto a great place to live, work and raise a family. Please consider giving back to your community by hosting a dinner table in your home or participating in the free dinner event as a guest. To RSVP to attend or for more information, go to www.desotodd.org or call 972.230.9648.

A Message from Code Enforcement

Did you know.....

That the City of DeSoto Ordinance that outlines Parking and Standing has a provision that prohibits parking a vehicle within twenty feet of the entrance or exit to an alley, and on the side of the street opposite the entrance or exit to an alley within twenty feet of the entrance or exit between the hours of 7 am and 6 pm except on Sundays. The vehicles in the diagram are illegally



parked within the twenty-foot zone around the entrance to an alley. The intent of the Ordinance is to preserve easy access to the alley for all vehicles and most importantly, to allow ample turning radius for Republic Services trucks.

It is also unlawful to park within ten feet of a postal receptacle or a grouping of postal receptacles, between the hours of 7 am and 6 pm except on Sundays and federal holidays. Violators of the Parking and Standing Ordinance will be subject to fines. If you would like to report a possible violation, please call the Code Enforcement office at 469.658.3075 or use the Go Request App on your smart phone.

This photo depicts the discussion that took place during the opening session at Mayor McCowan's A Heart To Serve Event on February 25th. Dr. Larry Terry, Director of the Urban SERCH Institute at UNT Dallas (standing), led participants through an exercise in "Building Stronger Communities".





Wednesday
APRIL 19, 2017
 10:00AM - 1:00PM

Disciple Central Community Church
 901 N. Polk St. #101; DeSoto, TX 75115

Calling all Job Seekers...

Here are just a few of the employers who will be represented at the DeSoto Works! Job Fair on April 19th:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| DeSoto ISD | TownePlace Suites by Marriott |
| Northwood University | Dallas County Sheriff's Department |
| Western Southern Life Insurance | Uplift Education |
| Services of Hope | Elite Casino Events |
| Republic Services | Dallas ISD and more... |

If you are a job seeker and would like to attend the job fair, please pre-register at desotoworksjobseeker.eventbrite.com. Childcare is available. For more information, e-mail prosperity@dc3online.org.

Spacing is limited, First Come First Serve!

DISCIPLE CENTRAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
 Marcus D. King - Senior Pastor

901 N. Polk St #101
 DeSoto, TX 75115
 dc3online.org

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GREATER DALLAS

EDC

CITY OF DeSOTO

DESOTO

DISCIPLE

Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Relay Texas: 711 | TDD: 1-800-735-2989 | Voice: 1-800-735-2988

Municipal Election Update

The DeSoto City Council approved an Ordinance at their March 7, 2017 meeting to accept the Certification of Unopposed candidates and declared unopposed candidates for Councilmember Place 2, Virgil Helm and Councilmember Place 4, Rachel Proctor elected to office. As a result, the municipal election called for May 6, 2017 will be canceled. If you have any questions, please contact the City Secretary's office at 972.230.9646.

DeSoto ISD will hold a Board of Trustees election on May 6, 2017. For more information, please contact DeSoto ISD Administration at 972.223.6666.



Please take note of these special instructions for the Document Shredding and E-Recycling Event on April 8, 2017.

Document Shredding

Documents can be brought to the DeSoto Service Center located at 809 W. Spinner Road for shredding on **Saturday, April 8, 2017**, from 9 am to 12 pm, or until the trucks are full. There will be a mobile document shredding unit on-site to shred your personal household documents at no cost. **(Commercial documents will not be accepted.)** You must follow the special instructions below.

- Place all documents in file boxes
- Do not bring documents loose in bags; they must be placed in boxes ready for shredding
- Do not tape the lid on top of the file boxes
- You will be able to watch your documents being shredded
- No more than **5 boxes per resident**

Boxes will be returned to residents for recycling. Once the event is over, any documents left at the location unattended or shredded with be considered illegally dumped. **IF RAIN OCCURS DURING THE EVENT, THE COLLECTION SITE WILL BE CLOSED FOR SAFETY REASONS.**

ELECTRONICS WASTE COLLECTION

The e-recycling event will also take place at the DeSoto Service Center located at 809 W. Spinner Road on **Saturday, April 8, 2017**, from 9 am to 12 pm, or until the trailer is full. All Items are collected FREE of charge!

Accepted Items Include:
 Computers, Hard Drives, Speakers, Monitors, Mice, Gaming Systems, Webcams, Cords & Cables, Keyboards, Servers, Printers, Cell Phones, Ink & Toner, PDA's and Scanners. TV's will not be accepted.

If you have any questions, please call the Action Center at 972.230.9600.

ArtsDeSoto.com

the DeSoto
ARTS COMMISSION



DESOTO ARTS COMMISSION

FOURTH MUSIC SERIES

fridays

free events

CONCERT DATES

Drea Randle	March 24 @ 7:30 pm	DeSoto Civic Center
DeSoto HS Jazz Band & Friends	April 28 @ 7:30 pm	DeSoto Civic Center
Richmond Punch	May 26 @ 7:30 pm	DeSoto City Hall Atrium
Theresa Grayson	June 23 @ 8:00 pm	DeSoto Outdoor Amphitheater



Presents:

Easter Egg-Stravaganza

Bring the kids to Zeiger Park, 400 Eagle Drive, for our annual Easter Egg Hunt at 11 am on Saturday, April 8th. The hunt is separated into a 3 and under age group, a 4 to 6 age group and a 7 to 9 age group. Admission is free, but bring an Easter basket! For more information please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 972.230.9651.

Briarwood Youth Fishing Day

Come out to the fishin' hole at Briarwood Park, 1625 W. Belt Line Road on Saturday, April 22nd from 9 am to noon for our annual kid's fishing day. Kids, 16 and under, are welcome and must be accompanied by an adult. Admission is \$5 per person. Bring your own fishing gear. No fishing license is required. Applications are available at the Recreation Center or you can register at the event. Call 972.230.9651 for more information.

DeSoto ISD

CORNER

3RD ANNUAL MALE LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

DeSoto ISD will host the 3rd annual Male Leadership Symposium for young men in grades 6-12 on Saturday, April 22 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at DHS, 600 Eagle Dr. Online registration opens March 20 at www.desotoisd.org. The event will provide relevant conversations for young men that will ensure success academically, professionally, and socially with a focus in the areas of STEM, Business, Arts & Entertainment, and Law/Government. With an emphasis on self-discipline, resilience and respect, attendees will enjoy powerful speakers and informative workshops with presenters in career fields across the four areas of focus. Change is possible and our young men can learn at a higher level if we support and create a framework for *Courageous Leadership in a Global Society*.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 3-5, May 1-3 – Pre-K and Kinder Round-Up, Civic Center
- April 22, 8 a.m. – Male Leadership Symposium, DHS
- April 22, 6 p.m. – Education Foundation Gala, Civic Center
- May 5, 5:30 p.m. – Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony, DHS
- May 30, 7 p.m. - DHS Graduation, Eagle Stadium
- June 1 - Last Day of School
- Summer Programs begin June 5!

