

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

STAR Transit Adds Fixed Route and On Demand Services in DeSoto

With the support of the DeSoto City Council and the Regional Transportation Council, STAR Transit is now serving the City of DeSoto with commuter Route 501 as well as curb-to-curb service with their wheelchair accessible buses.

Route 501 serves the City of DeSoto, including area industrial parks with stops located at the Kohl's e-Fulfillment Center and Wal-Mart Distribution Center. The route also accesses Methodist Charlton Medical Center and the UNT Dallas Station on the DART Rail Blue Line. This service further connects DeSoto to cities located in the inland port area with transfer points at The Crossing Shopping Center located at I-35 and Pleasant Run Road and the UNT Dallas Station on the Hutchins Shuttle Route 401.

Hours for Route 501 are Monday through Friday, 4:45 am to 9:36 am and 2:45 pm to 6:36 pm. The fare is \$1.00 each way but citizens can ride FREE until May 31. After May 31, qualified seniors, veterans and disabled riders may continue to ride the fixed route free. For more information on the qualification process, contact STAR'S Mobility Management Department at 877-631-5278. Temporary signs will designate bus stops.

On-demand service hours are available from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Fares range from \$1.00 and \$12.00 and trips are calculated by the direct travel distance from origin to destination. It does not include intercept pickups or drop-offs and measures distance based on fastest, most efficient street routing. Area residents are able to go anywhere in STAR Transit's service area, which includes Kaufman County, Rockwall County, Seagoville, Balch Springs, Mesquite, Hutchins and DeSoto. Rides into Dallas County and Ellis County are also available for non-emergency medical appointments. All trips are based on availability.



Based on Shortest Distance	Age 60+ Veteran Disabled	General Population
Any trip 5 miles or less	\$1.00	\$2.00
More than 5 miles/less than 10	\$2.00	\$4.00
More than 10 miles/less than 15	\$3.00	\$6.00
More than 15 miles/less than 20	\$4.00	\$8.00
More than 20 miles/less than 25	\$5.00	\$10.00
More than 25 miles	\$6.00	\$12.00

For more information about STAR Transit and the DeSoto services, visit www.STARtransit.org or call 877-631-5278 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

City Calendar

May

1 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
 3 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
 3 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
 3 Historical Foundation Mtg. - 6 pm
 5 HOA Involvement Workshop 9 am
 5 Mother/Son Dance - Civic Ctr. 7 pm
 7 Arts Commission Mtg. Civic Ctr. 6 pm
 7 Park Board Mtg. Civic Ctr. 6 pm
 15 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - canceled
 19 Summer of Soul Party
 22 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
 25 Free Concert Poetry & Jazz - 7pm
 28 City Offices Closed for Memorial Day

June

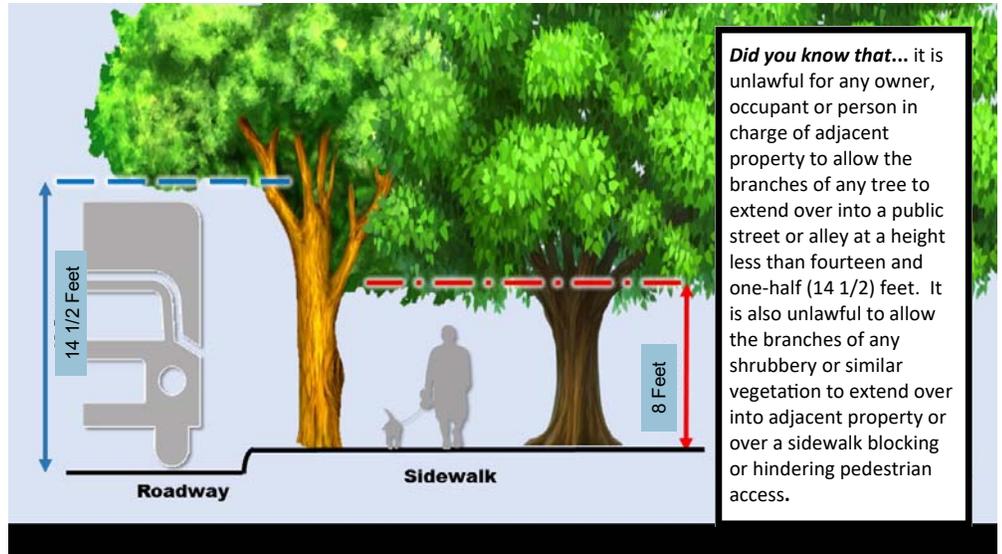
2 Crawfish Fest - Amphitheater 6 pm
 4 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6 pm
 4 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
 5 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
 7 Historical Foundation Mtg. 6 pm
 7 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
 7 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
 12 Planning & Zoning Mtg. -City Hall -7 pm
 16 Juneteenth Celebration - Duncanville
 19 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
 22 Forte Band Concert Amphitheater 8 pm
 25 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am10
 26 Planning & Zoning Mtg. -City Hall -7 pm

Free Mosquito Dunks for DeSoto Residents

The City of DeSoto is partnering with the Dallas County Health and Human Services Department to provide free Mosquito Dunks. DeSoto residents may drop by the City of DeSoto Action Center at 211 E. Pleasant Run and pick them up while supplies last (limit one package per household). Mosquito Dunks are placed in water sources where mosquitoes breed and work to kill the larvae before they hatch into breeding mosquitoes. Mosquito Dunks are completely organic and safe for the environment. Call the Action Center at 972.230.9600 for more information.



A Message from Code Enforcement



Did you know that... it is unlawful for any owner, occupant or person in charge of adjacent property to allow the branches of any tree to extend over into a public street or alley at a height less than fourteen and one-half (14 1/2) feet. It is also unlawful to allow the branches of any shrubbery or similar vegetation to extend over into adjacent property or over a sidewalk blocking or hindering pedestrian access.

DeSoto Public Utilities Offers Free Water Conservation Courses

The DeSoto Public Utilities Department has partnered with Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center to offer a series of water efficiency and landscape maintenance classes focused on techniques to conserve water and reduce monthly water bills. These classes are free of charge to DeSoto residents, but will require registration. Classes are limited to 75 attendees. You will want to sign up early to guarantee your seat. Here's the schedule:



Made For The Shade: Shade Gardening

Monday, June 11, 2018 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Are your trees throwing shade? Does your landscape have problem areas where nothing seems to grow? Do you have mature trees and areas where your turf is receding? Don't accept being shaded out! Learn about the many native and adapted plants that not only survive, but thrive in shadier spots along with tips and tricks to create beautiful shade gardens that beat the Texas heat. We'll also cover gardening under mature trees as well as turf alternatives and hardscape options for low light areas.

Water U Doing?: Water Efficient Sprinklers

Monday, July 23, 2018 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

What are you doing for your landscape? Save water, money and time by giving your sprinkler system a "Spruce Up". Come learn how minor do it yourself repairs and simple irrigation tips can make a MAJOR impact on your water waste and your water bill. If you've got questions about your controller or how much your lawn and landscape really needs, we've got a stream of info to get your plants looking their best!

Pots In Small Spots: Container Gardening

Monday, August 13, 2018 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Gardening in containers is a great way to grow your horticulture skills! If you have a small yard or patio that needs a pop of ornamental color, are frustrated with the poor soils on your property, or just simply don't have the space to grow your fruits and veggies, then give container gardening a try. This course is such a fun way to put the Spiller, Filler and Thriller back in your life and your landscape. You won't be able to contain yourself!

All workshops take place at the Jim Baugh Government Center in the City Council Chambers located at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road. To attend, please register online at www.desototexas.gov or by calling 972.230.5724.



“The City of DeSoto is committed to the educational development of our workforce and is partnering with UNT Dallas to offer a Bachelor’s Degree Program for City Employees,” said DeSoto City Manager Tarron J. Richardson. The first class to participate in this program is pictured here during their orientation.



The City also offers the following opportunities for employees and interns:

- City of DeSoto offers a monthly stipend to all employees who hold a college degree.
- Each summer, the City places college interns from the Dr. Emmett J. Conrad Leadership Program facilitated through Texas Senator, Royce West’s office, in support positions in the Parks Department, Library, Finance Department, Human Resources and more.
- High School students who participated in the 2017 Junior Civic Academy will be placed in intern positions with City of DeSoto this summer as well.

“We strive to have a well-trained and educated workforce and we are working to create opportunities for the next generation of City employees,” said Dr. Richardson.

Summertime on Belt Line Begins June 11

Are you looking for activities for your teen this summer? Summertime on Belt Line, a summer recreation program for teens sponsored by the DeSoto Parks and Recreation Department and DeSoto ISD, returns on June 11, 2018.

Activities include:

- Open gym for basketball and volleyball
- Mini athletic leagues
- A performing arts camp
- Structured games and activities
- Life skills
- Personal grooming and appearance
- And much more...

Summertime on Belt Line runs Mondays through Thursdays, 1 pm to 7 pm and Fridays from 1 pm to 6 pm through August 3rd at DeSoto East Middle School. Lunch will be provided!

This program is open to DeSoto ISD students. Please call 972.230.9655 for more information on registering to attend the program.





DESOTO ARTS COMMISSION

summer CONCERT SERIES 2018

FORTE
BAND

JUNE 22 | 8P

BIFF
BAND

JULY 27 | 8P

ROBERT
HOLBERT GROUP

AUG 24 | 8P

INSPIRATION
BAND

SEPT 28 | 8P

RUBEN
STUDDARD

SEPT 29 | 8P

ALL EVENTS AT THE DESOTO TOWN CENTER OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER
211 E PLEASANT RUN ROAD, DESOTO, TX 75115



Join us on June 2nd!
FOR THE DESOTO CRAWFISH FESTIVAL!

free events!
ArtsDeSoto.com