



Fall Issue  
2007

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The

# Lancaster Connection

Vision 2022: Lancaster is a proud vibrant city. We Celebrate Our Diversity and History, Preserve Our Natural Beauty and are the Economic Hub of South DFW Metroplex. Our Citizens Take Pride in Our City. The Lancaster Community is the Best Place to Live with Excellent Schools and Educational Opportunities and Attractive Corridors and Neighborhoods. Our Citizens Enjoy Convenient Living.

Connecting with residents, neighborhoods and businesses.

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The Mayor, City Council, and Executive Team met in the summer 2007 for their annual strategic planning session with Lyle Sumek of Lyle Sumek Associates, Inc. These sessions are designed to review, evaluate and fine-tune the vision, plan, and execution of priorities, progress and goals of the council and administration.

The priorities established reflect careful evaluation of a multitude of both short and long-term needs. They will also provide direction for city administration. The Lancaster Vision 2022 and the Five Year Goals remained consistent with previous goals and objectives.

<span style="font-size: 1.2em;">City Council Goals and Objectives</span>	
<b>FIVE YEAR GOALS</b>	<b>LANCASTER MISSION</b>
Financially <u>Sustainable City</u> Government Higher Quality Development: Residential and Commercial City-an <u>Organization of Excellence</u> Enhanced <u>City Infrastructure</u> and Facilities Greater <u>Community Unity</u> and Pride The Preferred Place to Live: Professionals and Families	LANCASTER CITY GOVERNMENT is FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE and provides EFFICIENT, CUSTOMER-FRIENDLY SERVICES Our citizens have TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN CITY GOVERNMENT AND LEADERS.
<b>Policy Agenda 2007-2008</b>	<b>LANCASTER VISION 2022</b>
<b>TOP PRIORITY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road Reconstruction &amp; Improvements: Funding</li> <li>Annexation Plan and Action</li> <li>Downtown Development Plan TIF(Tax Increment Financing) &amp; PID(Public Improvement District)</li> <li>Airport Area Development Plan &amp; Overlay (Lanport) Development</li> <li>City-School Strategy: Staff, Council, and Community</li> </ul>	LANCASTER IS A PROUD VIBRANT CITY. We Celebrate Our Diversity and History, Preserve Our Natural Beauty, and are the Economic Hub of South DFW Metroplex. Our Citizens Take Pride in Our City. THE LANCASTER COMMUNITY is the Best Place to Live with Excellent Schools and Educational Opportunities and Attractive Corridors and Neighborhoods. Our Citizens Enjoy Convenient Living.
<b>HIGH PRIORITY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial &amp; Investment Policies Refinement</li> <li>Financial Commitments Analysis &amp; Funding               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I-35 Overlay Plan &amp; District</li> <li>Allen Group Development</li> </ul> </li> <li>Nokomis Road Bridge Stream Bank Protection: Funding</li> <li>Comprehensive City-Wide Litter Control Program</li> </ul>	<b>MAJOR PROJECTS 2007-2008</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Public Safety Building</li> <li>*Senior Center Building</li> <li>*Municipal Courts</li> <li>*I-20 Service Road: Construction</li> <li>*Dallas Ave. Utility Replacement (Beltine to Pleasant Run): Construction</li> <li>*Fire station 2: Renovation</li> <li>*Sewer Lift Station Upgrade: Construction</li> <li>*Visitor's Center: Construction</li> <li>*Community Park Improvements(Pavilion, Playground Equipment, Trails, Basketball Court)</li> </ul>

**City holiday closings**  
 Nov. 22-23    Dec 24-25    Jan. 1

City of Lancaster PO Box 940 Lancaster, TX 75146	PRSRT STD U.S. Postage PAID LANCASTER, TX Permit No. 4
Postal Customer	



### Election Day – Tuesday, November 6, 2007

A special election will be held to fill an unexpired term for the Councilmember in District 6 and to consider one proposition regarding the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for certain projects.

*Note: Only legally qualified voters of District 6 shall be entitled to vote for councilmember for District 6. Any legally qualified voter within the City limits of Lancaster shall be entitled to vote regarding the bond proposition.*

Infrastructure and streets are primary ingredients for continued growth in our community. City Council has stressed the importance of street repair and maintenance as a high objective on the list of priorities.

#### Proposition 1

This issue of \$37,545,695 City of Lancaster, Texas General Obligations Bonds for the purpose of providing funds for permanent public improvements, to wit: planning, designing, constructing, reconstructing, improving, extending and expanding streets, thoroughfares, freeways, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, pedestrainways, trolleyways and other multi-modal transportation facilities, including related storm drainage facilities, and improvements, signalization, signage, video roadside cameras, and other traffic and signal controls, street lighting, landscaping, streetscape and median improvements, the acquisition of land therefore, and the levy of taxes to provide for the payment thereof and interest thereon.

#### Early Voting

**Will be conducted at the Lancaster Recreation Center at 1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway and other Dallas County branch locations on the dates and times below:**

Monday, October 22, 2007 through Friday, October 26, 2007, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 27, 2007, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 28, 2007, 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 29, 2007 through Wednesday October 31, 2007, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 1, 2007 and Friday, November 2, 2007, 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**During the early voting period, registered voters may vote at any Dallas County early voting location. A complete list of Dallas County early voting locations is available at [www.dalcoelections.org](http://www.dalcoelections.org)**

**On Election Day -- voting will be conducted at 2 polling locations by precinct number from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. as noted below:**

**Precinct Number**  
3800, 3801, 3802, 3803, 3804 & 3805  
Lancaster Recreation Center  
1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway

3806, 3807, 3808, 3809 & 3810  
Elsie Robertson Middle School  
822 W. Pleasant Run Road



**For more information, please contact the City Secretary's office at (972) 218-1310.**



**The City of Lancaster now has Tolltags available!  
You can come into City Hall and obtain a tolltag.  
For more information, please visit our website at [www.lancaster-tx.com](http://www.lancaster-tx.com) or call us at (972) 218-1300.**



## Neighborhood Crime Watch



### What is Neighborhood Crime Watch?

The Neighborhood Crime Watch Program is a Crime Prevention Program which enhances neighborhoods in many respects. Concerned neighbors, safe neighborhoods, communication among neighbors, awareness and attention to home security are just some of the enhancements the program can make.

Neighborhood Crime Watch is one of the most effective and least costly ways of reducing and/or preventing residential property crimes. It is a citizen involvement, neighborhood and community based effort, designed to create a partnership between citizens and the police in developing crime fighting strategies. Reducing crime and increasing an overall sense of peace, safety and security in our community and neighborhoods is the intended goal of the program.

The program's success is hinged on improving communications between neighbors and achieving and sustaining an appropriate level of neighborhood involvement.

### How do I Start a Neighborhood Crime Watch?

Call the Lancaster Police Department Problem Oriented Policing (POP) Unit at (972) 218-2768 (Mon-Fri 9am-3pm), to schedule a date, time and location for a program presentation. Please speak with your neighbors first to determine their interest and learn which night of the week is best (for the highest possible turnout).

Typically, Neighborhood Watch presentations are held in a home in the neighborhood. If this is not possible, other good locations are schools, the recreation center or a church in close proximity to the neighborhood.

### Home Security Survey

The Lancaster Police Department offers a free home security survey for residents of Lancaster.



This survey will give you tips on making your home less attractive to burglars and also qualify you for a 15 to 20% discount on your homeowners insurance. For more information or to schedule an appointment please contact Investigators Logan or Thompson at (972) 218-2764 or 218-2768.



## Municipal Court Week

Municipal Courts play a critical role in preserving public safety, protecting the quality of life in Texas communities and deterring future criminal action. Our municipal courts provide a local forum where questions of law and fact can be resolved with respect to alleged state law and municipal ordinance violations. The Legislature recognizes the important work of the municipal courts in our state and resolves that November 5-9, 2007 and November 3-7, 2008 be recognized each year as **Municipal Court Week**.

Lancaster Municipal Court is located at 3250 W. Pleasant Run Rd. Ste. 175. The staff of five, court administrator Jo Ann Sacharko and four deputy clerks, handle all Class C misdemeanor citations written by the Lancaster Police, LISD police, and Neighborhood Services Officers. All court employees have yearly educational requirements they must acquire in order to sustain the functions of their jobs.

If you have any questions about court related issues, you may contact the Municipal Court at 972-218-1334.



### Counselor Corner

Frequently there are calls to Client Services Division about **lease violations**.

The following is directly from our Administrative Plan:

Termination of an assisted tenancy is a matter between the owner and the family; the Lancaster Housing Division is not directly involved. The following are the most common reasons for lease violations:

- Serious or repeated **lease violations** (i.e. unpaid rent; unauthorized occupants)
- Violation of State, Federal or Local Law
- Criminal Activity or Alcohol Abuse (drug activity, assault, denial of the right to peaceful enjoyment by other residents)
- Evidence of Criminal Activity.
- Eviction.

These are the most common areas of concern, but not meant to exclude other situations.

Call us for more information.



### Inspections Update

When filling out a packet for an initial lease, make sure that you list the date the unit will be ready for inspection. The unit must have all of the utilities on and have all appliances in place. The utilities are the landlord's responsibility until the unit passes inspection and the contract has been signed by the client. Lancaster Housing Division does not allow the client to move into the unit until the contract is signed. LHD is not responsible or liable for rent or damage if the client moves into the unit prior to the contract being signed.

### Security

HUD's Housing Quality Standard does not allow double keyed dead bolt locks on any door that may be used as an emergency exit in case of fire.

All locks should be operable and fastened securely to the door.

The lock "striker plate" should be operable and fastened securely to the door frame.

The door frame must be strong enough to cause the door and lock to close securely.

The Housing Inspections Department will be hosting a Landlord briefing in November for prospective and current landlords.



## Planning 101



**What is a Developer's Agreement?** A City Council approved agreement between the City and a developer that clearly establishes the developer's responsibilities regarding a development project. Items such as project phasing, the provision of public and private facilities, infrastructural improvements and other mutually agreed terms and requirements make up a developer's agreement.

**What is a Variance?** A requested departure from any provision of the City's zoning ordinance (Lancaster Development Code), where under special conditions, literal enforcement of the ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship. Setbacks are the most commonly requested variances.

**What is the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA)?** A board that consists of 5 citizens, each appointed by the Mayor, that have the ability to grant or deny variances.



### Construction Update

The 2005 bond projects are well underway and we're on schedule for meeting our projected completion goal! All design concepts, utility inspections, and drainage studies have been conducted and completed and we're excited about moving on to the construction phase of our facilities. Our City Council is slated to review the bid for the Senior Center in October 2007 and with confirmation of the bid, the construction will begin on our Senior Center in November. The Public Safety Building, the remodeling of Fire Station No. 2, and the remodeling of the Municipal Court are all tentatively scheduled to be advertised for bid September 28, 2007 and October 5, 2007. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2007 and the bid opening will follow on October 25, 2007. These projects are slated for completion in late 2008 or early 2009. State Representative Helen Giddings and the entire Texas Legislature approve Resolution 2954 designating the Lancaster Visitor's Center as an official Texas Auxiliary Museum. We are ecstatic about the activities taking place within our City and we are confident that these projects will meet and exceed our expectations. So keep an eye out for the exciting actions taking place at our new Senior Center and Public Safety Building!

### Brush/Bulk Trash

In an effort to maintain voluntary compliance with keeping our community clean, we would like to remind residents of the brush/bulk collection rules:

Brush/bulk will be collected during the following months only: February, April, June, August, October, and December.

- \* Place your brush/bulk items on the curb (not the alley)
- \* Brush/bulk cannot exceed 12 cy max (6'x4'x16')
- \* Waste must be placed at the curb or roadway by 7:00 a.m. on the Monday of your pick-up week. If you are unsure of your pick-up week, you may call 972-218-1328 for your schedule.
- \* No hazardous wastes (such as paint, batteries or chemicals) will be collected.
- \* No tires will be collected.

If brush/bulk is present at any time other than your designated pick-up week, the waste will be tagged for removal. If not removed within three days, the waste will be removed and a charge will appear on your utility bill.



### Help Reduce Your Trash: Recycle!!!

The City of Lancaster is encouraging you to reduce your waste and trash by recycling. Blue recycling bins are available at the Utility Billing Department for free!!

Each citizen is allowed up to 4 blue recycling bins and these bins are picked up the same day as your trash. All recyclable items can be included in the bins and no separation of these items are necessary.

#### Do Recycle

- Cardboard boxes- e.g. cereal, corrugated cardboard
- Paper-e.g. magazines, newspapers, catalogs
- Aluminum & Metal cans- e.g. Drink cans, metal food cans
- Plastic bottles-e.g. detergent bottles, juice, milk, soda bottles
- Glass-e.g. beverage containers and food containers





“The City of Lancaster Planning Department would like to solicit your input on the two concept plans for a master visioning effort for the Historic Downtown. The visioning plan is for EVERYONE in the City of Lancaster and we would like to invite you to a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 6:00PM for your input. If you are unable to attend, please fill out the attached survey and return to the Planning Department. You are also welcome to e-mail comments to rstringfellow@lancaster-tx.com. Thank you in advance for your participation!”

## Downtown Development Master Plan

### Citizen's survey by

5Gstudio\_collaborative, llc.

311 N. Market St.

Suite 230

Dallas, TX 75202

### Please fill out and return

Check all that apply, please print neatly:

1. What would you like to see more or less of in your downtown?

	Less	Average	More	Specify / Comments
Retail				
Food /Restaurant				
Residence				
Community Parks				
Open space / plaza				

2. How would you like to experience downtown district?

- Walking paths
- Bike paths
- Public transportation
- By automobile

3. How often do you go shopping for goods other than food?

- \_\_\_\_\_ per week
- \_\_\_\_\_ per month

4. If downtown offered restaurant(s) of your choice what would it be (choose all that apply)?

- Seafood & Steak
- Southern Style Home cookin'
- European (Italian, French, German, etc.)
- Tex-mex
- Asian (Chinese, sushi, etc.)

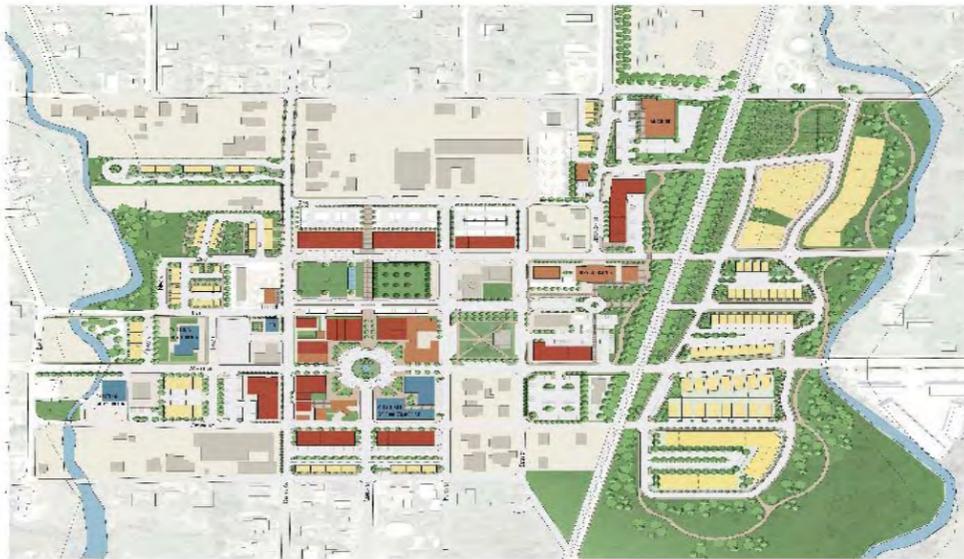
5. How many times do you visit the Post Office (Lancaster downtown location)?

- \_\_\_\_\_ per week
- \_\_\_\_\_ per month

6. When / if you have guest(s) from out of town where do you take them in Lancaster?

\_\_\_\_\_

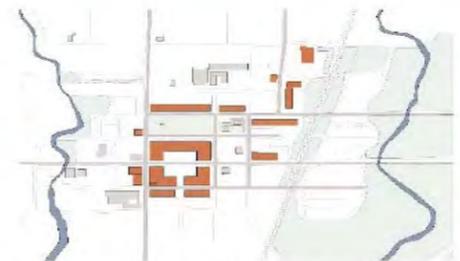
Additional comments are welcome: [Lancaster@5gstudio.com](mailto:Lancaster@5gstudio.com)



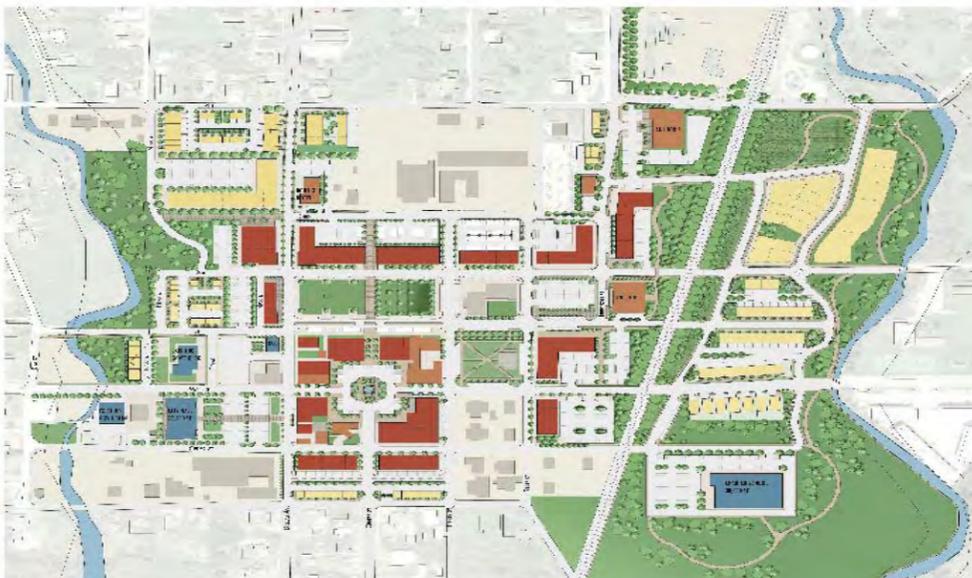
Downtown Plan Proposal - 1



Distribution of programs



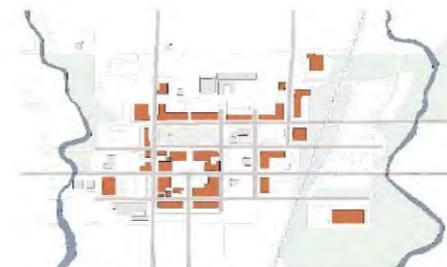
Commercial diagram w/ circulation



Downtown Plan Proposal - 2



Distribution of programs

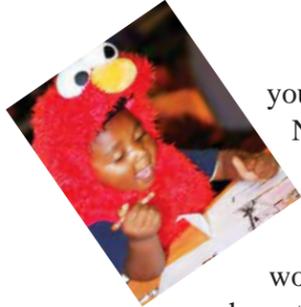


Commercial diagram w/ circulation



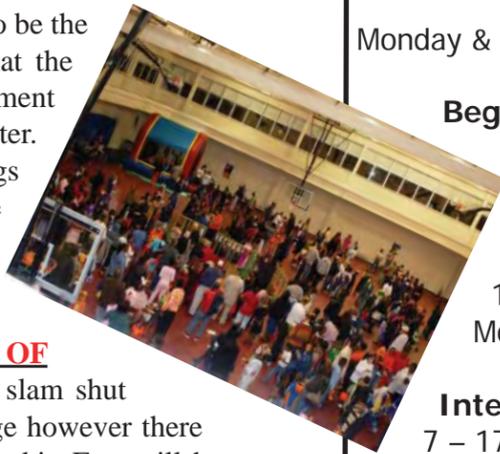
Live Out Loud at Lancaster Recreation Center

Great things are happening this fall at the Lancaster Recreation Center. The selection of fitness programs offered by the recreation center has expanded. We wanted to think outside the box when it comes to recreation programming. Some of the fitness classes offered this fall includes Water Aerobics, Mixed Cardio, Kickboxing and the ever popular Jazzercise®. We also extend an invitation to all citizens for several Special Events. For more information please contact us at www.lancaster-tx.com or call 972.218.3703



**October 19, 20, 26 and 27** we invite you for a thrill of a lifetime at Bear Creek Nature Trail located at 1000 Bear Creek Rd in Lancaster. We are celebrating our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spooktacular Haunted Hayride. **BEWARE:** The Hayride will travel the woods and be filled with scary scenes, characters and surprises. Will you come out alive? The hayride will operate from 7:00pm -10:00pm with free popcorn and drinks. The cost of the hayride is \$5 per person.

**October 31, 2007** which is set to be the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkin Fest Carnival that the Lancaster Parks and Recreation Department has provided to the citizens of Lancaster. Grab your costumes, cameras, treat bags and kids bring your parents. Prepare yourself to enter the scariest building in Lancaster, the Haunted Recreation Center. There will be plenty of games, contest, and most important **LOTS OF CANDY.** Door opens at 6:30p.m. and slam shut at 8:30 p.m. The event is free of charge however there will be a charge for concessions. Pumpkin Fest will happen regardless of weather conditions.



**Volunteers are needed to help staff this event and assist with operation of games, costume judging, serving refreshments and helping find lost parents. No experience necessary, we will train. For additional information or to volunteer contact the Recreation Center at (972) 218-3702.**



**November 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm** we invite all senior citizens out to the Lancaster Recreation Center for a full complimentary meal and entertainment. **Please RSVP before November 1<sup>st</sup> to Kametra Ford at 972.218.3703**

**December the 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm -8:00 pm** Santa Clause and two of his elves will be coming to visit Lancaster in the Town Square. The celebration will last from 6 pm-8 pm Santa will be bringing snow with him from the North Pole. Adults and children will also have the opportunity to sled down our man made snow slope. There will **FREE** Parking, **FREE** Drinks, **FREE** popcorn and **FREE** entertainment. **Mark your calendar.** This will be a perfect opportunity to see and get your picture taken with Santa and his elves.

Lancaster Recreation Center is a place for the community to get fit, make friends and have fun. If you bring in this article, you can receive a 1 week complimentary individual membership to try out the great facility. So stop by and Live Out Loud!

**Horticulture Tip**

The fall months are ideal for planting woody ornamentals (trees and shrubs). Many merchants will be reducing the price of plant material at the end of summer, rather than trying to hold them over the winter months. Trees can increase the value of a home by \$1,000 each. Large trees properly placed in your landscape will reduce heating and cooling costs. Plants such as Desert Willows and Texas Sage require very little water or maintenance.

**Youth Sports/Activities**



Monday & Wednesday 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm  
**Karate** \$35 month

Class to learn karate and self defense designed to help individuals become more confident both mentally and physically.

Monday & Wednesday 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm

**Beginning Youth Karate & Self Defense** 7 - 17 years

Monday & Wednesday 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm

**Beginning Adults Karate & Self Defense**

18 years and up

Monday & Wednesday 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm

**Intermediate / Advanced Youth**

7 – 17 years

Monday & Wednesday 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm

**Hoops Basketball** 3-7 years \$25 Session

Hoop It! A four-week instructional basketball development class for your little player to learn the basics of passing, shooting and team play in a non-competitive form.

Monday 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm



**First Kick Soccer**

3-7 years \$25 Session

Pass, Shoot and Score! A four-week instructional development class for your little player to learn the basics of soccer and team play.

Thursday 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm



The City of Lancaster approved the position of Naturalist for the Bear Creek Nature Park. The Naturalist will manage and oversee the daily operations of the park area. We are excited about our classes and programs that will be featured at the Nature Park and once the Naturalist is hired, the overnight campgrounds will be opened. So keep your eyes open for new and exciting happenings from the Bear Creek Nature Park.



**Improper Disposal of Yard Waste  
Can Destroy Your Water**

***Here's how to keep eco-conscious clients  
happy and comply with city regulations.***

Residents and businesses are becoming more and more aware of the impacts that improper disposal of yard waste can have on their landscape, wallet, and local lakes, rivers, streams, and creeks. As their lawn care company, clients may be asking you to leave their yard waste on the lawn, and if you don't, you may need to look for business elsewhere.



**Improve your landscape with less work!**



Grass clippings and leaves are truly a valuable natural resource. Grass clippings left on the lawn can provide up to 25% of your lawn's total fertilizer needs, and leaves contain 50 to 80% of the nutrients a plant extracts from the soil and air during the season. To keep these nutrients where they can nourish the lawn, mulch grass clippings and leaves and leave them on the lawn, or compost them.



**Save your money!**

During the year, at least 20% of the solid waste generated by Texans comes from grass clippings, tree leaves, and other yard wastes. Bagging these materials and placing them into the curbside garbage collection system uses valuable landfill space and costs residents more in increased taxes and service fees.

Clogged storm drains may also use up tax dollars. A nearby storm drain may become clogged if grass clippings and/or leaves are swept or blown into the storm drain. Clogged storm drains may cause flooding and requires that the city come out and clean the storm drain. Ask yourself if you would prefer to have your tax dollars spent on cleaning out a storm drain or fixing a pothole in the street.

By leaving grass clippings and fallen tree leaves on your lawn, you are supplying it with natural fertilizers, meaning your clients spend less money on fertilizer application and you also save money, time, and energy.



**Be environmentally friendly!**

Yard waste that is left in the street, sidewalk, or driveway, or which is dumped, blown, or swept into the storm drain will eventually be washed into nearby creeks, streams, rivers, and lakes during a storm or by water runoff from watering your lawn. Yard waste in a local waterway can deplete the oxygen level in the water, which is harmful to aquatic life. Chemical fertilizers used on the lawn can also wash down the storm drain and negatively impact aquatic life, so by using your yard waste as a natural fertilizer, you can help reduce storm water pollution.



**Properly dispose of yard waste.**

When you leave waste on the lawn, be prepared. Here's what you should do:

- Remove yard waste from the streets, sidewalks, and driveways. Blow or sweep grass clippings or tree leaves back up into the yard where they can help provide additional nutrients to your lawn.
- Don't Bag It™! Use grass clippings or fallen leaves as mulch or shred them and use them to fertilize the lawn and protect landscape plants from extreme weather. Mulching mowers and blades make this easy. (But be sure to clean up any yard waste that gets into the street).
- If you have a compost bin, add the yard waste to that bin.



**For more information on Stormwater, contact the City of Lancaster  
City Engineer at (972) 218-1200.**

Turkey time is upon us and while we are thinking of a million and one ways to cook our turkeys, everyone should be concerned about the grease that these lovely birds produce. When cooking this holiday season, let us be mindful of the fats, oils, and grease that we are putting in our stormdrains. Listed below are some helpful tips we can use to help safely get rid of fats, oils, and grease in our city.

- After the oil has cooled, you can filter and freeze the cooking oil and reuse it!
- Scrape food scraps into the trash can and avoid using your garbage disposal.
- There are recycling centers located around the metro area. Visit [www.nctog.com](http://www.nctog.com) for details.
- Slowly mix in kitty litter until the oil is absorbed and can be placed in a bag.
- Use environmentally safe products that won't harm the earth.
- Use a sink catcher when washing dishes to catch all unwanted foods and scraps during washing.

## Let's Tackle the Grease in This Kitchen!

**Why should I help?**

- Prevent grease buildups from blocking sewer lines.
- Stop sewer overflows into streets and storm drains.
- Save money spent on costly cleanups of sewage spills.
- Reduce the number of times you have to clean your grease trap (food service).
- Protect the quality of our water.

**DO!**

- Put oil and grease in covered collection containers.
- Scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using your garbage disposal.
- Remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease.
- Prewash dishes and pans with cold water before putting them in the dishwasher.
- Cover kitchen sink with catch basket and empty into garbage can as needed.
- Cover floor drain with fine screen and empty into garbage can as needed.

**DON'T!**

- Don't pour oil and grease down the drain.
- Don't put food scraps down the drain.
- Don't run water over dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles to wash oil and grease down the drain.
- Don't rinse off oil and grease with hot water.

**More Ways to Tackle Grease**

- Use environmentally safe cleaning products instead of harsh detergents or cleaners that can damage sewer lines.
- If you generate large amounts of used cooking oil, reuse or recycle it. To find a recycler, check the phone book under "recyclers" or "rendering companies."
- If you generate small amounts of used cooking oil, reuse it as often as possible and then pour it into a container you can throw away. Never pour it down the drain.
- Start a compost pile at your home with scraps that are not meat. Find out about composting in the TCEQ publication, "A Green Guide to Yard Care" (GI-028).

For more information, contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Small Business & Local Government Assistance Section 1-800-447-2827 www.tceq.state.tx.us

## ¡Ataquemos a la Grasa en Esta Cocina!

**¿Por qué tengo que ayudar yo?**

- Evitar acumulaciones de grasa que obstruyan las líneas del drenaje.
- Detener los desbordamientos de drenaje hacia la calle y desagües pluviales.
- Ahorrar dinero que se gasta en limpiezas costosas por derrames de drenaje.
- Reducir el número de veces que se tienen que limpiar las trampas de grasa (servicio de alimentos).
- Proteger la calidad de nuestra agua.

**¡HACER!**

- Poner el aceite y la grasa en contenedores cerrados para colección.
- Quitar las sobras de comida en los trastes y tirarlas a las bolsas para basura y eliminarlas debidamente. Evite usar su triturador de basura.
- Quitele el aceite y la grasa a los trastes, ollas, freidoras y parrillas. Primero enfríe antes de tallar o limpiar el exceso de grasa.
- Enjuague los trastes y ollas con agua fría antes de ponerlos en la lavadora para trastes.
- Cubra el fregadero de la cocina con canasta para capturar y vacíela en el bote para basura conforme sea necesario.
- Cubra el resumiendo en el piso con un cedazo fino y vacíarlo en el bote de la basura conforme sea necesario.

**¡NO HACER!**

- No vacíe aceite y grasa por el desagüe.
- No tire por el desagüe sobras de comida.
- No enjuague los trastes, ollas, freidoras y parrillas con agua para tirar el aceite y la grasa por el desagüe. No enjuague el aceite y la grasa con agua caliente.

**Mas Maneras de Atacar la Grasa**

- Use productos de limpieza ambientalmente seguros en lugar de detergentes o limpiadores ásperos que pueden dañar las líneas del drenaje.
- Si genera grandes cantidades de aceite para cocinar usado, reusar o reciclar. Para encontrar a un reciclador, revise el directorio telefónico bajo "recicladores."
- Si usted genera pequeñas cantidades de aceite usado para cocinar, reusar tan seguido como sea posible y luego vacíelo en un contenedor que pueda tirar. Nunca lo vacíe por el desagüe.
- Empiece un agillamiento de abono en su casa con sobras de alimentos que no contengan carne. Infórmese acerca del composteo en la publicación de TCEQ *Una Guía Verde para el Cuidado del Patio* (GI-028).

Para mayor información comunicarse a Comisión de la Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) por sus siglas en inglés Sección de Asistencia a Pequeños Negocios y Gobiernos Locales 1-800-447-2827 www.tceq.state.tx.us

Comisión de Texas para la Conservación de los Recursos Naturales Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas



The City of Lancaster Parks & Recreation Department presents

# Bear Creek Haunted Hayride

It's Spooktacular



Friday October 19  
Saturday October 20  
Friday October 26  
Saturday October 27  
7:00pm to 10:00pm

**Cost is \$5**

FREE Parking & Popcorn

Bear Creek Nature Park  
1000 Bear Creek Rd.  
Lancaster, TX 75146

Kid's Halloween Carnival  
Wed., October 31, 6:30pm to 8:30pm  
Lancaster Recreation Center  
(FREE) Bounce House,  
Carnival Games,  
Food, Costume Contest,  
Goodie Bags

Call 972-218-3702  
for more information

Everyone is invited to attend our annual Haunted Hayride at our Bear Creek Nature Park. There will be lots of ghouls, goblins and ghosts waiting around the hay stacks just for you. So come out and enjoy our Haunted Hayride!! We're promising a hair-raising time!!!



**Lancaster Outreach Center**

## Christmas Shoppe 2007

*Providing a Merry Christmas For 500 Children*

Please help us help others. Many will not have a Merry Christmas without your help.  
**We Need \$25,000 of Toys!**

**How You Can Help:**

Donate new toys for ages 1-14	Donate cash to buy toys
Donate holiday food	Volunteer to prepare the Shoppe
Volunteer to help distribute toys	Volunteer to help distribute food

**List of Suggested Toys:**

Toddler Toys	Fisher Price Toy Sets
Play Kitchen Sets	Ethnic Baby Dolls & Accessories
Legos	Barbies (Ethnic with clothes & accessories)
Board Games	Educational Games
Handheld Electronic Games	Videos/CDs (Kids/Teens)
Cars/Trucks	Walkman/CD/Mp3 Players
GI Joes	Clock Radios
In-line Skates	Sporting Goods
Watches	Clothes for all ages
Make up	Bath & Body Sets



**Many families and children are counting on you!**  
Toys must be received by December 20<sup>th</sup>

Lancaster Outreach Center 1120 Randlett St. Lancaster, TX 75146  
Phone: 972-227-0138 Website: www.l-o-c.org Email: info@l-o-c.org

### NEED ASSISTANCE? DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO CALL?



Airport	972-227-5721
Animal Control	972-218-1200
Atmos Energy (Gas)	800-460-3030
Building Inspections	972-218-1200
Cable (Time Warner)	972-445-5555
Chamber of Commerce	972-227-2579
City Hall	972-218-1300
Neighborhood Services (Code Compliance)	972-218-1200
Community House (Seniors)	972-227-2650
Constable Derick Evans	972-228-0006
Country View Golf Course	972-227-0995
County Health Department (Immun.)	214-819-2100
County Tax	214-653-7811
Dallas County Precinct 1	972-228-2272
Development Services	972-218-1200
Driver's License	469-272-9301
Economic Development Corporation	972-218-7036
Employment-City Job Line	972-218-1313
Fire (Non-emergency)	972-218-2600
Focus Daily (Newspaper)	972-223-9175
Police (Non-emergency)	972-218-2700
Housing	972-218-1230
Library	972-227-1080
LISD Administration	972-218-1400
Medical Center at Lancaster	972-223-9600
Motor Vehicle Registration	214-653-7811
Municipal Court	972-218-1334
Outreach Center	972-227-0138
Parks & Recreation Center	972-218-3702
Planning & Zoning	972-218-1218
Post Office	800-275-8777
Public Works	972-218-2300
AT&T (Telephone Service)	800-464-7928
TXU (Customer Service)	800-242-9113
Water Billing	972-218-1328
Voter Registration (Co. Elections Dept.)	214-637-7937
Water/Sewer Repair	972-218-2324

### Holiday Trash Information

**Christmas Tree recycling will be available on 01/08/08 at 100 N. Dallas Ave. in the Town Square Parking Lot**  
*\*Only real trees will be accepted*

**Trash will not be picked up on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Trash that is scheduled to be picked up on those days will be picked up the following day.**





Join the City of Lancaster and the Chamber of Commerce for the 54th Annual Christmas Parade. This years event promises to be one of excitement and joy. Bring the whole family out to see the Parade of Lights Saturday December 8, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in participating in the parade, fill out the application below and return it to the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce.

**LANCASTER 54TH  
"LIGHTED" CHRISTMAS PARADE**  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2007

*Sponsored by Lancaster Lions Club, City of Lancaster,  
and Lancaster Chamber of Commerce.*

**Benefiting the Lancaster Outreach Center,**  
the entry fee is the donation of non-perishable food items or new unwrapped toys to be brought at the time of the parade. The parade will begin at Lancaster Middle School parking lot (822 W. Pleasant Run) and end at Historic Town Square (Main @ Dallas Avenue).

Lineup: Lancaster Middle School Parking Lot at 3:00 p.m.      Judging: 4:00 p.m.  
Entry Deadline: December 5, 2007      Parade Start Time: 5:00 p.m.

**Since the parade starts at 5 p.m.—you are encouraged to light your entry.**

Judging categories will be divided into:

Automobiles/Antique Cars	Business Entry (Floats/Auto)
Floats/Auto (Churches, Clubs, organizations)	Equestrian
Marching Group	Youth Groups (float, marching, walking)

Awards will be given out at end of parade at Lancaster Town Square.

*Please, no Live Santa's on floats; it confuses the children—thank you.*  
*Pursuant to City ordinance, and for the safety of spectators and participants, entrants ARE NOT allowed to throw candy.*

For more information, call Mary Kinnard at 972-227-2579.

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**ENTRY FORM**  
**2007 LANCASTER CHRISTMAS PARADE**

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City—State—Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of Entry: No. of People (if marching) \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Return form to: Mary Kinnard, 100 N. Dallas Avenue, Lancaster, TX 75146 or FAX to 972-227-9555

### New Parking Law Goes Into Effect

The City of Lancaster has adopted a new parking ordinance for residents. Effective Monday, September 24, 2007, "no one is allowed to park within ten (10) feet of a postal receptacle or a grouping of postal receptacles, except a United States Postal Service vehicle and except on Sundays and federal holidays." This ordinance was put into effect after several residents complained of not getting their mail due to the increasing number of cars parked in front of mailboxes. Some residents spray painted words on the mailboxes instructing individuals not to park their cars close to the mailboxes. Residents are also not allowed to "leave, stand or park any motor vehicle, boat or other impediment in any paved alley within the city limits." Violators will receive up to a \$200 citation for each offense committed.





# Lancaster Connection

## October

- 18 7:00 p.m. Teen Club Meeting @ Library
- 22 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
- 23 10:00 a.m. Preschool hour @ Library
- 23 7:00 p.m. Friends of the Library @ Library  
Halloween Hayride @ Bear Creek
- 30 11:00 a.m. Fall Festivities @ Library
- 30 7:00 p.m. Pumpkin & Haunted Hayride

## November

- 5 7:00 p.m. LISD School Board Meeting
- 6 7:00 a.m. Special Election-District 6
- 6 10:00 a.m. Preschool Story Hour @ the Library
- 6 7:00 p.m. Lancaster Art Club
- 7 8:00 a.m. LMS Career Day (Elsie Robertson Middle)
- 8 11:30 a.m. Chamber Luncheon
- 10 10:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday on the Square
- 12 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
- 13 10:00 a.m. Preschool Story Hour @ the Library
- 13 5:00 p.m. Anime Club Meeting @ Library age (8-14)
- 13 7:00 p.m. Genealogy Program @ the Library
- 15 4:00 p.m. Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner
- 15 5:00 p.m. Anime Club Meeting @ Library age (15+)
- 15 7:00 p.m. Teen Club Meeting @ the Library
- 19-23 LISD Thanksgiving Break
- 22-23 Thanksgiving Holiday (City Offices Closed)
- 27 10:00 a.m. Friends of the Library @ the Library
- 27 10:00 a.m. Literary Program @ the Library
- 27 6:30 p.m. Historic LPC Program @ the Library

# Calendar

## December

- 4 10:00 a.m. Preschool Hour @ the Library
- 4 7:00 p.m. Elementary Winter Concert @ LHS Auditorium
- 4 7:00 p.m. Lancaster Art Club @ the Library
- 6 7:00 p.m. Elementary Winter Concert @ LHS Auditorium
- 7 Flag Retirement Ceremony
- 8 Christmas Festival @ Heritage Park
- 8 2:00 p.m. 2nd Saturday on the Square
- 10 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
- 11 10:00 a.m. Preschool Hour @ the Library
- 11 7:00 p.m. Genealogy Program
- 11 7:00 p.m. High School Winter Program @ the LHS Auditorium
- 12 11:00 a.m. Best Southwest Luncheon @ the Hilton Garden Inn
- 13 7:00 p.m. Middle School Winter Concert @ the LHS Auditorium
- 18 10:00 a.m. Preschool Story Hour @ Library
- 18 5:00 p.m. Anime Club Meeting @ Library age (8-14)
- 20 5:00 p.m. Anime club Meeting @ Library age (15+)
- 20 7:00 p.m. Teen Club Meeting @ Library
- 24-08 LISD Winter Break
- 24-25 Christmas Holiday (City Offices Closed)

**2007 Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Dinner**  
(Complimentary Dinner)

*The City of Lancaster is requesting your presence at our 2007 Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Dinner.*



*Lancaster Recreation Center*

**November 15**

**4:00pm-6:00pm**



*"Thanksgiving is an important ingredient in praying...If all we do is ask, and never thank God for His gifts, we are selfish. Sincere gratitude to God is one of the best ways to put fervor into our praying."*

Please RSVP before  
**November 1, 2007**

972.218.3703



The Lancaster Parks and Recreation Department is gearing up for 2nd Annual Arbor Day Poster Contest. The year's theme is: Trees are Terrific...inside and out! This year's lesson has 5th grade students role-playing the growth process of a young tree. With the assistance of local art teachers, a winner from each 5th grade classroom will be forwarded to the City of Lancaster's Tree Board for judging. Judging is scheduled for November 19, 2007. For more information contact Joel McKnight, Park Operation Manager at (972) 218-3714.



**Holiday Trash and Christmas Tree Recycling Information Located on pg 10.**