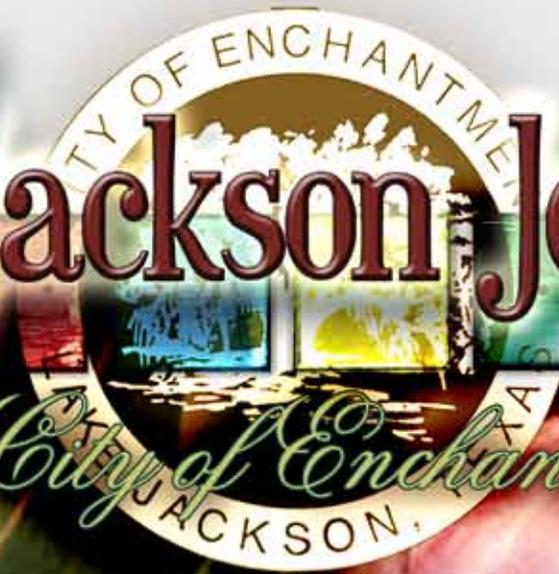


VOLUME 11-44

FALL/WINTER 2011

The Lake Jackson Journal

The City of Enchantment



City Budget Information Inside

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

published by the City of Lake Jackson

The City of Enchantment

Greetings from the Mayor

Dear fellow citizens,

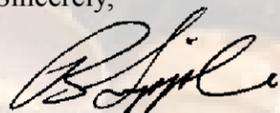
In my spring 2009 newsletter, I reported our credit rating had been improved from A to AA. It is with great pride I report, thanks to the outstanding work of City Manager Bill Yenne and our Finance Director, Pam Eaves, our credit rating is now AA+. We are in the process of refinancing our bonds with this new rating, saving over a million dollars in interest over the life of the bonds. However, as we recognize Bill and Pam, it is important to also recognize our department leaders and all of our employees as leadership, operation efficiency and high productivity rates mean savings for our tax payers as we again have held the tax rate at \$0.39/100. This does not come without sacrifices however. One example is the reduction of this newsletter. We are eliminating the summer edition to save. Also, we are continuing the hiring freeze in certain departments. We all saw some evidence of the hiring freeze as it took us longer than we like to get to the many water leaks we have experienced this summer. All in All, I feel our people did an outstanding job considering the circumstance.

Council members, myself included, have had many questions about the downtown area. It is running several weeks behind, and God bless Assistant City Manager Modesto Mundo, and City Engineer Sal Aguirre, who are doing all possible to get things back on schedule. There have been issues causing delays, which also impacts subcontractor scheduling, and this has been a problem. We have asked the general contractor not to begin work on This Way until after the holidays to minimize impact on downtown merchants.

My final term as your mayor ends May 2012. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you the last 6 years. I look forward to returning to volunteer work as Lori and I will do all we can to show appreciation for the many blessings we have received from all of you. Again I want to say, when you see a city employee, whether at city hall or around town, please offer them a sign of appreciation for their efforts. We are blessed with a beautiful city, and we will do all possible to preserve it.

Happy holidays to you and your families.

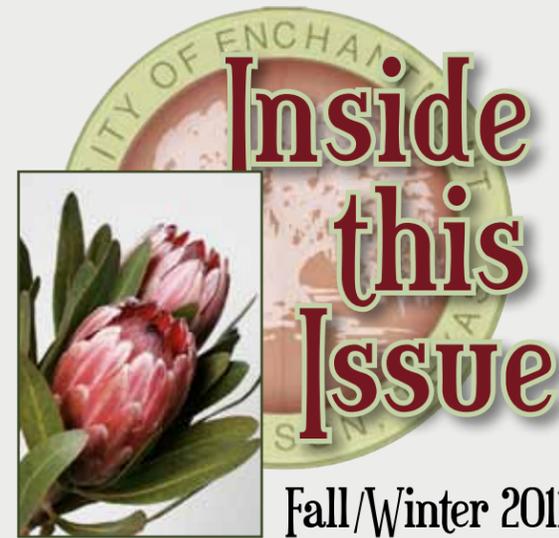
Sincerely,



Robert Sipple, Mayor

Lake Jackson Vision Statement

It is the Vision of the City of Lake Jackson to create an ideal community to live, work and play for all.



City Directory 2
 Boards & Commissions Meeting Schedule 3
 Fall Clean-up. 4
 LJPD Blue Santa Program. 4
 Public Works 5
 Recreational Events. 7
 Festival of Lights. 9
 Police 11
 Fire 13
 Seniors. 15
 City Budget 15
 Ordinances and Resolutions. 17
 Automatic Bank Draft Form. 18

Directory

— Phone Numbers —

- Emergency - Only! 911 (police, fire and ambulance)
- Police (Non-Emergency) 415-2700
- Fire Marshall 415-2726
- Fire Chief 415-2719
- EMS Chief 415-2714
- City Hall. 415-2400
- Utility Billing 415-2434
- Public Works 415-2430
- Inspections 415-2432
- Engineering 415-2413
- City Manager/Administration. 415-2500
- Civic Center. 415-2600
- Recreation Center. 297-4533
- Humane Center 415-2700
- Regional Animal Shelter 285-2340
- Municipal Court 297-1031
- Library 415-2590

— City Council E-Mail —

- Mayor**
 Bob Sipple bsipple@lakejacksontx.gov
- Councilmembers**
 Heather Melass hmelass@lakejacksontx.gov
 Bob Geter bgeter@lakejacksontx.gov
 Joe Rinehart jrinehart@lakejacksontx.gov
 Scott Schwertner sschwertner@lakejacksontx.gov
 Jon "J.B." Baker jlbaker@lakejacksontx.gov

— Department Directors —

- City Manager** William P. Yenne
 wyenne@lakejacksontx.gov
- Asst. City Manager** Modesto Mundo
 mmundo@lakejacksontx.gov
- City Engineer** Sal Aguirre
 saguirre@lakejacksontx.gov
- City Secretary** Alice Rodgers
 arodgers@lakejacksontx.gov
- Finance Director** Pam Eaves
 peaves@lakejacksontx.gov
- Fire Marshal** Randy Crim
 rcrim@lakejacksontx.gov
- Fire Chief** Mike harper
 firechief@lakejacksontx.gov
- EMS Chief** Fred Ortiz
 fred.ortiz@ljems.org
- Parks & Rec. Director** Jennifer Jones
 jjones@lakejacksontx.gov
- Police Chief** Paul Hromadka
 chief@lakejacksonpd.net
- Public Works Director** Craig Nisbett
 cnisbett@lakejacksontx.gov
- Personnel Director** Carmen Williams
 cwilliams@lakejacksontx.gov

**Visit our Website at
www.lakejackson-tx.gov**

Experience
THE WILDERNESS
LAKE JACKSON
GOLF CLUB & PRO SHOP

Take advantage of these great offers:

- *Player's Pass*
- *Annual Pass*
- *Online Tee Times*
- *Gift Cards*

501 w. Hwy. 332,
Lake Jackson, TX 77566
979.297.GOLF (4653)
www.thewildernessgc.com

KemperSports
THE WILDERNESS
LAKE JACKSON, TEXAS

Boards & Commissions Meeting Schedule



- City Council**
6:30 p.m. • 1st & 3rd Monday
- Planning Commission**
6:30 p.m. • 1st Tuesday
- Youth Advisory Commission**
(meets at police station)
6 p.m. • 2nd Monday
- Traffic Commission**
7 p.m. • 2nd Tuesday
- Keep Lake Jackson Beautiful**
6 p.m. • 3rd Tuesday
- Senior Citizen Commission**
(meets at civic center)
6:30 p.m. • 4th Monday
- Parks & Recreation Board**
6:30 p.m. • 4th Tuesday
- Library Board**
(meets at library)
5:15 p.m. • Quarterly - 3rd Tuesday
- As Called:**
Board of Health
Hike & Bike Committee
LJ Development Corporation
Museum Board
Zoning Board of Adjustments
Charter Review Commission (Odd Years)
Dangerous Structure Determination Board

*All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held at Lake Jackson City Hall • 25 Oak Drive
You are cordially invited to attend.*

Check the City Calendar on our website at www.lakejackson-tx.gov for all City Council and Board and Commission agendas. Agendas are typically posted on Friday afternoon or at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

The Lake Jackson Journal

Published by The City of Lake Jackson
Editor Kim Knapp
Art Director Sarah Romero

Fall Clean~Up

Saturday, November 12th

**“America Recycles Day”
Clean Event**

7:30 to 11:00

@ Lake Jackson City Hall

T-Shirts & Refreshments for Volunteers!

**Recycling and Cleaning up
for the Festival of Lights!**

PAPER SHREDDING
sponsored by
Texas Gulf Bank
@ City Hall
along with used oil and glasses

ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION
@ Brazosport College

TIRE RECYCLING COLLECTION
@ Angleton Fair Grounds

RECYCLE DAY ★ NOV. 12

LJPD Blue Santa Program

Blue Santa Program
Lake Jackson Police Dept.

The Blue Santa Program began with a very small group of Police Officers from the Lake Jackson Police Department donating and delivering toys and food to less fortunate families throughout the City of Lake Jackson. For many years members of the Lake Jackson Police Department, Department Associates and City Employees have continued the Blue Santa tradition by compiling the list of families, shopping for the families, wrapping, then delivering the gifts. As the word spreads about the Blue Santa Program, not only do the calls for assistance increase; but so does the outpouring of generosity from the community, local merchants, as well as citizens and merchants from other cities. In recent years the Blue Santa Program has expanded to the Brazosport area.

Cash and new unwrapped gifts can be dropped off at the Police Department at anytime. A gift pick-up can be scheduled by organizations or groups making donations and desire to have a representative of the Blue Santa Program pick up the gifts.

For questions contact Officer Rick Wright
Lake Jackson Police Department
(979) 415-2700 rwright@lakejacksonpd.net



Household Garbage

Residential garbage is picked up at the curb twice weekly. If you live **North** of Oyster Creek Drive, your household garbage is picked up on **Monday and Thursday**.



If you live **South** of Oyster Creek Drive, your household garbage is picked up on **Tuesday and Friday**.

Garbage must be placed on the curb no later than 8:00 am on the days of collection in order to ensure that it will be picked up. Please do not use a garbage can for household garbage - A sticker will be placed on the container and it will not be emptied. You can purchase garbage bags at City Hall for \$5.50 (roll of 50), bags above 35 gallons will not be picked up.

Recyclables

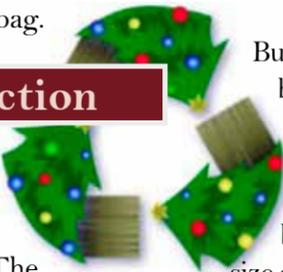
Co-mingled recyclables are picked up curbside once a week and always on the second day of your household garbage pickup. Please place recyclables at the curb no later than 8:00am in order to ensure it will be picked up. When placing the blue bags for collection, be sure to keep them separate from your household garbage.

The blue bags may be purchased at City Hall for \$5.50 (roll of 50) or your local grocery store.

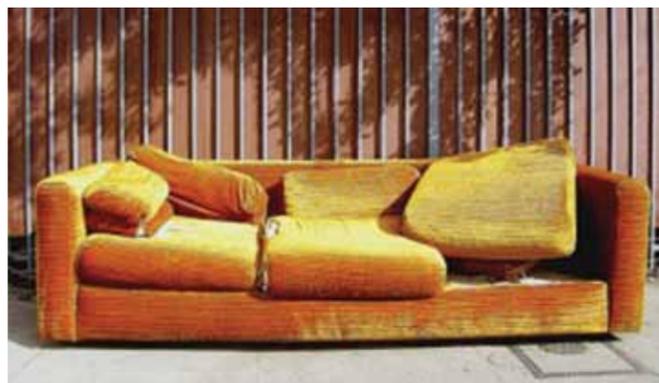
Recyclables include: plastics (with the recyclable symbol #1 thru #7), aluminum and tin cans, clean paper and cardboard. Place newspapers in a separate paper, or clear plastic grocery bag.

Christmas Tree Collection

The City will begin collecting Christmas trees starting January 2, 2012. A container will also be available at the mulch site for Christmas tree drop off. The trees collected will be used to restore the sand dunes at the Brazoria County beaches. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Public Works desk.



Heavy Trash



Household Garbage pickup is **Monday and Thursday**, then your Heavy Trash pickup begins the 1st and 3rd Monday.

If your Household Garbage pickup is **Tuesday and Friday**, then your Heavy Trash pickup begins the 2nd and 4th Monday.

Please place your heavy trash on the curb no later than Monday at 8:00am of your corresponding Heavy Trash pickup week in order to ensure that it will be picked up during your designated week. City crews will only go through your area once during your assigned week. Please remember that when there is a 5th week in the month, there is no heavy trash pickup service.

The City will collect yard debris and normal household discarded furniture and appliances, such as refrigerators, washers, dryers (with doors removed or chained shut), sofas, chairs, beds, hot water heaters, and similar items.

Building materials, such as roofing shingles, concrete, brick and other construction debris will not be picked up. Please be sure to separate your yard debris from your normal household heavy trash. If your heavy trash exceeds 64 cubic feet of debris or over 12 bags of leaves or grass clippings (approximately the size of the bed of a normal sized pickup truck) it will be considered an oversize load. A door hanger will be left at the residence with the phone number to call and the cost to remove the debris.

Mulch Site

Did you know that the mulch site takes yard debris and turns it into free mulch for Lake Jackson residents? Please bring your own hand tools and containers to assist in loading the mulch. Residents may pick-up mulch once per quarter simply by showing their driver's license to the attendant.

The following are items that may be brought to the mulch site for proper disposal: Food grade cooking oils, antifreeze, motor oil, tires and any recyclable material except glass and Styrofoam.

If you prefer not to wait for curbside heavy trash/yard debris pickup on your designated week, you are welcome to drop it off at our Mulch site.

Please note: Household garbage nor construction/remodeling material will not be accepted.



THE MULCH SITE HOURS OF OPERATION

103 Canna Lane (next to Brazosport Memorial Hospital)
Tuesday - Friday 8:30am - 11:45am • 1:15pm - 4:30pm
Saturday 8:30am - 3:30pm • Closed Sunday & Monday

Illegal Dumping & Sweeping

No person shall place any accumulations of refuse and trash on any street, median strip, alley, sidewalk or other public place of travel, nor upon any private property. If you witness illegal dumping of refuse and/or trash, immediately notify the Police Department with the license plate number at 415-2700.

When debris such as grass clippings or leaves are swept into the City streets it causes the drain ways to clog and also fills in the ditches. In the event of rain, this impairs the drainage process and causes the streets to flood. Please help us by not sweeping or blowing yard debris into the streets.

City Ordinance Sec. 82-33.(b) states that "No person shall sweep into or deposit in any street or sidewalk the accumulation of yard refuse, clippings or litter from any building or property."

PUBLIC WORKS - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Q: Do I need a permit to install a generator?

A: A permit is required by the City for the installation of a generator. We would need the following permit information: application, copy of survey, generator specifications, drawing showing the lines from the generator to the house as well as the generator to the property line. The application will require the licensed plumbing & electrical contractor's information. We require that all contractors must be registered with the city in order to do any work. (There is no charge to register a contractor). Once you have filled out an application, it will be submitted to the Building Official for approval. You will be called to pay for and pick up your permit once approved. The contractor and/or homeowner will be required to call for an inspection at the appropriate time. You can download the permit application from our website: www.lakejackson-tx.gov Feel free to call the Public Works desk for additional information.

Recreational Events



Recreational Events



Citywide Blood Drives

@ The Recreation Center

Tuesdays, 11:30am-4:00pm

November 22
December 20
January 31
February 28
March 27
April 3



Daddy & Daughter Dance



At The Civic Center Ballroom

Friday, February 12
6:30-9:30pm
\$25 per couple
\$10 each additional person

Citywide Easter Egg Hunt

At MacLean Park

Thursday, April 5
5:30pm SHARP!
Babies – 11 yrs • FREE event!



TAAF Youth Basketball



Get registered for this fun & exciting youth basketball league! Volunteer coaches are needed and will receive a discounted registration!

For boys & girls ages 5-12
Registration deadline is 5pm on Sunday, Nov. 13

Bakin'N'Cakin

Learn decorating, mixing and more!



For boys & girls ages 5-12
Tuesday 6:30 – 7:30 pm
January 10-31
or March 6-27

Kids Craft Corner for the Holidays

Let your imagination run wild this holiday season!



For boys & girls ages 3-8
Monday-Friday
December 19-23
6:00-8:00pm

Adult Co-ed Volleyball

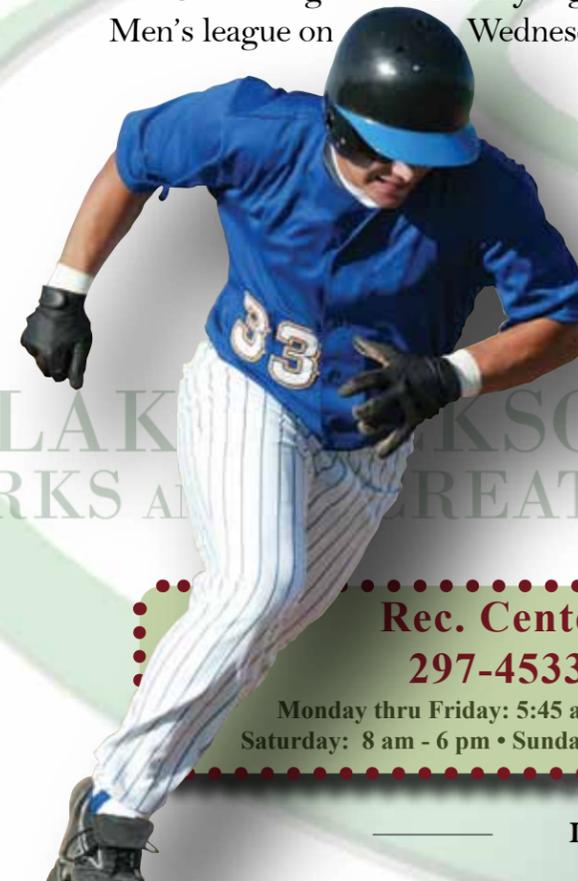


Six week league followed by end of season tournament.

Fridays, February 25-March 31

Adult Softball

Seasons run throughout the year.
Co-ed league on Monday nights
Men's league on Wednesday nights



Rec. Center
297-4533

Monday thru Friday: 5:45 am - 9 pm
Saturday: 8 am - 6 pm • Sunday: 1 - 6 pm



American Red Cross Lifeguard Training

Become a certified lifeguard!
Must be 15 years old by last day of class
Winter session is Dec. 10-13
Spring sessions are
Mar. 3-6, Apr. 14-17 or May 5-8
Call for details.

American Red Cross Professional Rescuer CPR & AED Training

Highest level of CPR/AED training individuals can receive without emergency response training.
Must be 15 years old by last day of class
Saturday, Jan. 21, 9:00am-4:00pm or
Saturday, Mar. 24, 9:00am-4:00pm

American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor Training

Learn to be a swim instructor!
Must be 16 years old by last day of class
Fall session is Oct. 28-Nov. 6
Spring session is April 20-29



City of Enchantment
Lake Jackson, TX

Saturday, November 19
10a.m. - 5 p.m.

Children's Activities (FREE)

- Tiki Rockwall
- Volcaco Island (NEW)
- Pony Rides
- 2 Bungee Trampolines
- Extreme Snow Board (NEW)
- Trackless Train Rides
- Chaos (NEW)
- 53' Obstacle Course
- Trainmaze
- Joust (NEW)
- Slam Dunk (NEW)
- Gator
- Castle Moonwalk

Food & Craft Booths
Civic Center / Library
Parking Lot Area

Lake Jackson
Civic Center Area

Entertainment
(Civic Center Outdoor Plaza)

- 10:00 L. J. Intermediate School Choir
- 10:30 Grady Rasco Honor Choir
- 11:00 Jana's School of Dance
- 11:30 Chance to Dance
- 12:00 Attitude Dance Studio
- 12:30 Brazoswood Buccaneer Drumline
- 1:00 Barbie Rhodes Dance Studio
- 1:30 Elite Dance Company
- 2:00 Footsteps School of Dance
- 2:30 Martial Arts America
- 3:00 Cheer Extreme
- 3:30 St. Jerome's Ballet Folkloric
- 4:00 Caitlin Colleen Dance Academy
- 4:30 Kim West Dance
- 5:00 Powerhouse Cheer & Dance Academy
- 5:30 Warehouse Dance Studio
- 6:00 Pure Energy Dance Studio

Breakfast with Santa
LJ Historical Museum
Ages: 2-10 • \$10/guest
Reserve by Nov. 15th.
979-297-1570

Holiday Chef Market
10 am - 5pm
Inside Civic Center

Pet Parade
Register 10-11 am
at Committee Booth
Judging @ 11 am

Lighted Parade
7:00 pm
Downtown Lake Jackson

*** ALSO ***

COOK-OFF
November 11-12
MacLean Park

LITTLE PRINCESS PAGEANT
November 18 @ 6:30 p.m.
Civic Center Ballroom

OUTDOOR CONCERT
Intercoastal Pirates
November 18
7 - 10 pm

WAGNER'S CARNIVAL
November 17-20
Civic Center Parking Lot

Lake Jackson Youth Advisory Commission present

SNOWLAND

11:30 - Snow Melts (around 2:30)

Sled down the Snow Hill under Snow Flakes
5 years and under come play in the "Snow Park" area!

The Citizen Police Academy



The next class of the Lake Jackson Adult Citizen Police Academy will begin in March 2012. Applications can be picked up at the Lake Jackson Police Department. There is no charge for this course.

The Citizen Police Academy is a 30-hour block of instruction designed to give the public a working knowledge of the *Lake Jackson Police Department*. The course consists of a series of ten classes held each Thursday night for three (3) hours. Each night a different topic will be covered by police personnel and supervisors assigned to the different units of the department.

In class we will be covering such diverse topics as training, communications, criminal investigation, and narcotics, with a particular emphasis on patrol, the area most often in contact with the public. Instruction will consist of lectures, demonstrations, tours, and hands-on-practice. Each participant will also be given the opportunity to ride with a patrol officer during an actual tour of duty. Chief Hromadka will be available at the first session and he or a member of his staff will be available throughout the course should participants need clarification or further information.

The slogan of the Lake Jackson Police Academy is "Better Understanding Through Education". The goal of the academy is to provide interested citizens with enough information to dispel suspicions and misconceptions about the police and to increase rapport between the department and the community through an educative process. We believe that officers will in turn become more aware of the public's feelings and concerns. Lastly, participants will have the opportunity to personally meet and talk with many officers through the department while providing our officers the chance to meet many concerned citizens representing a wide variety of community interests.

Contact the Lake Jackson Police Department for more info.

AARP Driver Safety Program



The Police Department is now offering the AARP Driver Safety Program. If your group would like to schedule a class contact Officer Wright at the Police Department. Classes will also be scheduled periodically throughout the year. Check the Police Department and city website for information.

LAKE JACKSON POLICE EXPLORERS POST 390



We are looking for a few good men and women who are interested in Law Enforcement or just looking to have fun. All you need to join is to be between 14-21 years of age,

completed the 8th grade have a passing GPA, and a clean criminal record.

Members of the Lake Jackson Police Department train the Explorers in maneuvers, tactics and skills that they use.

Once you learn these tactics you will compete in competitions against other explorers, from all over the USA, in simulated events. We also have a ride along program once you are 16 years of age and have obtained a driver's license

If you are interested please pick up and complete an information sheet and return it to the Police Department.

Neighborhood Safety Tips

- If you walk or run at night, wear white or light colored clothing. Reflective tape or reflective garments are a great addition to your workout wardrobe. Also, tell family members your route and always carry identification with you. If possible, carry a cell phone, also.
- Lock out crime. Keep your garage doors down and the doors to your home and vehicle locked.
- Program 9-1-1 into your cell phone so that if you are involved in an accident it will be easier to call for assistance. Be aware of where you are at all times because your cell phone does not give an address on 9-1-1 screens.
- When calling 9-1-1, be calm, clear and concise with information and facts. This will help the police a great deal.
- Sensor and/or other strategically placed lighting are always a "bright" idea.
- Shrubbery should be trimmed below window level and the pricklier the foliage, the better for you!
- Know who your neighbors are and what cars they drive. Being this kind of "nosy" neighbor may keep them and you safe.
- When going to your vehicle in a parking lot or other location, always have your keys ready. Be aware of your surroundings and who might be around. Have a companion and look under your car and in the backseat before entering.
- While away for extended periods, set timers to turn lights on at the end of the day.
- While away on vacation or a business trip, have someone pick up your papers or have the service interrupted while you are away.

The Lake Jackson Police Department will present programs to your group or organization. If you are interested in having a presentation made to your group please contact Officer Wright.

12 Days of Christmas

Brought to you by the Lake Jackson Fire Marshal and Volunteer Fire Department

Twelve Brown Needles ~

Always be sure to water your tree to prevent a fire hazard. A well watered tree will shed no needles.

Eleven Lit Candles ~

Be sure that your candles are placed in sturdy containers and placed a safe distance away from combustibles. Be sure they are extinguished before you go to bed.

Ten Thousand Volts ~

Remember that outside lights should have all their bulbs installed and not located near snow or puddles.

Nine Broken Ornaments ~

Be sure that breakable ornaments are placed high near the top of the tree, away from pets and children.

Eight New Batteries ~

Always be sure that your smoke alarms have new batteries. This time of year is know for fire outbreaks.

Seven Old Decorations ~

Many old decorations like tinsel and icicles contain lead. They should be discarded.

Six Foot Flash Fire ~

Never Burn wrapping paper or evergreen boughs. Flash fires could result from intense burning and jumping sparks.

Five Inches of Smoke ~

Be sure that your chimney is clean and the flu is open. Make sure hot ashes are placed in a metal container and placed outside until cold.

Four Sick Children ~

When using natural decorations such as holly berries and mistletoe, be sure to keep them out of reach of small children.

Three String of Lights ~

Use only CSA approved Christmas tree lights. Check for grayed wires or broken sockets. Do not overload outlets. Never use more that 3 strings per circuit.

Two Many Drinks ~

This time of year is shared with many adult beverages. Remember that you need to be aware of drinking and driving both on you part and the others you share the road with.

One Burnt Bird ~

This time of year there is always too much to do...be sure when you are preparing your meals to pay close attention.



Winter Safety

With the cold days of winter upon us, the Lake Jackson Fire Marshal and Lake Jackson Volunteer Fire Dept. want to remind all citizens that now is a good time to have your home heating system checked to ensure it is operating correctly and safely.

Throughout the course of the year, cooking is one of the number one causes of residential fire. Across the country thousands of fires, millions of dollars in damages and numerous injuries are caused by cooking accidents, most often unattended cooking. However, in the cold winter months of December, January and February, heating related incidents rank first in the cause of fires and fire related injuries. With many residents using alternative forms of heating, i.e. space heaters, wood-burning stoves, fireplaces, and kerosene heaters; fires and instances of carbon monoxide exposure increase dramatically during this time of year. Every resident can prevent a potential disaster by having their heating systems checked by a licensed and certified professional. Have your heating system checked now before it is put into full time use during the cold winter months.

The Lake Jackson Fire Marshal and Lake Jackson Volunteer Fire Dept. want to remind all residents of some very basic safety tips to prevent fires, injuries and exposure to poisonous gases.

Heaters

- Keep all heaters at least 36 inches from anything that can burn (furniture, bedding, clothing, pets and people.)
- Don't operate a space heater when you are not in the room or when you are sleeping.
- Do not place anything over the heater to dry.
- Check for fraying or splitting wires or overheating on electric space heaters. Have a professional make any repairs.
- Never use gasoline or other substitute fuels in a kerosene heater.
- Turn off and cool down the heater before adding fuel and wipe up any fuel that is spilled.

Fireplaces

- Have chimneys professionally inspected and cleaned each year.
- Use a sturdy fireplace screen when burning fires.
- Burn only wood and NOT paper or pine boughs that can float out of a chimney and ignite your roof or a house.
- If you are hanging stockings by a fireplace, do not burn a fire.

Wood Burning Stoves

- Stove connector pipes and chimney should be inspected each year by a professional.
- Use short hot fires rather than long smoldering ones.
- Don't leave a stove unattended when children are present.
- Never use gasoline, kerosene, charcoal starter or other flammables to start a fire.
- Empty ashes into a metal container with a tight fitting lid. Keep containers off of combustible floors.

Holiday Safety

Why is Holiday safety important?

- Decorations are not used and checked for damage/wear and tear on a regular basis
- More visitors in the home, especially children and the elderly. Child proof your home if small children are expected.
- Schedules are more hectic and most people are preoccupied with family events. Take time for safety!

We're checkin' the list...checkin' it twice

The following are a few things you should look for to make your home safer.

- Condition of electrical outlets and safety caps. Extension cords, too many, plugged into each other (piggy backed).
- Electric lights on the metal christmas tree!
- Condition of all electrical cords.

What's cookin' in the kitchen?

Here are a few things you should look for in the kitchen.

- Thaw meat properly.
- Don't keep pots and pans on the stove when you are finished with them.
- Keep handles pointed in (so they aren't bumped by someone walking by or grabbed by curious children.)
- Be careful when storing and handling glassware and flatware.
- Be careful of using dishwashers if the dishes are not compatible with dishwashers. Hand wash all dishes not compatible with dishwashers.

Children in the Kitchen..

Children love to help in the kitchen, but they should always be supervised.

- You should limit the number of people, especially the number of children, and the number of tasks.
- The tasks should be assigned according to age and motor skills.

A few things to look for in the dining room...

- The flower arrangements (toxic?)
- The candles (a fire hazard within reach of children.)
- The crystal and china (chipped/cracked?)
- Sharp knives accessible to children
- The hot food on the table
- The passing of plates

Some advice about the tree...

- The placement of a tree (real or artificial) inside the room is very important. Don't block exits or put too close to radiator.
- Keep your live tree fresh. Water it regularly.
- Secure the tree from tipping over. Keep away from whatever traffic is in the room.
- Decorate the tree safely, keep the breakable ornaments away from children.

The great outdoors...

- Check the types of lights.
- Check the extension cords.
- Check the electrical wires to ensure they are designed for use outdoors.
- Check the equipment needed for setting up decorations. Do NOT use metal ladders for lights.
- Be careful of the placement of the wires, especially around doors, walkways, and driveways.
- Watch for the animals, children, and the mailman.

Seniors

Civic Center
415-2600
 Monday thru Friday,
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



BLUE SANTA BALL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13th
6 - 9 p.m.

\$8 per person / includes dinner
 Music by Lowell & Debi.

Please bring an unwrapped toy for the toy drive! Door prizes, fun & socializing.

BINGO!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6th
TUESDAY, MARCH 20th
6 - 8 p.m.

Prizes & refreshments. Free Event
 Bring a dessert and participate in our
DESSERT CONTEST. Prizes to the top 3.

DISCUSSION GROUP

Led by Don Caldwell

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24th
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28th
MONDAY, JANUARY 23rd
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27th

MONDAY, MARCH 26th
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 Donuts & coffee served.

VETERANS DAY BRUNCH

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10th
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Honoring all veterans & their families.
 Free Event.

RSVP to the Civic Center

THANKSGIVING LUNCH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Join in fellowship & fun for a great
 Thanksgiving feast! \$7 per person.
 Deadline for tickets is Nov. 15.
 Tickets available at the Civic Center

SENIOR FEST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th
9a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Event of the year for Seniors
 in the Brazosport area! Free event.



The Lake Jackson Senior Citizens Commission upholds their mission of "making a difference in the life of every person who is 55 and older".

The Lake Jackson Senior Commission meets every 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

You are invited to attend!

Keep Posted on Current Events

- Check our ad in Wednesdays' Facts
- website at www.lakejackson-tx.gov
- Channel 16 TWC
- The LJ Civic Center

City Budget



FY11-12 Adopted Budget

City Council adopted the FY11-12 budget on Tuesday, September 6, 2011. A complete copy of the budget may be viewed on our website at www.lakejackson-tx.gov or you may visit the Lake Jackson Library to view a hard copy.

Here are the highlights on the FY11-12 budget in bullet format:

- The tax rate will remain at 39 cents.
- The Brazosport Water Authority (BWA) is increasing water rates to the City of 10%. This increases our water costs in the Utility Operating Budget by \$119,720.
- Landfill tipping charges at the landfill are increasing 4.4%.
- Increased residential utility rates to cover rate increase to the City (such as the BWA) and to cover increased costs for wages/benefits as follows:

	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
Water base rate	\$10.30/mo	\$11.00/mo
2,000-20,000 gals	2.95/1000	3.05/1000
Over 20,000 gal	3.20/1000	3.30/1000
Sewer base rate	10.30/mo	11.00/mo
Over 2,000 gals	3.23/1000	3.30/1000
Sanitation rate	14.00/mo	14.40/mo
State sales tax	1.33/mo	1.36/mo
Recycling fee	2.10/mo	2.10/mo

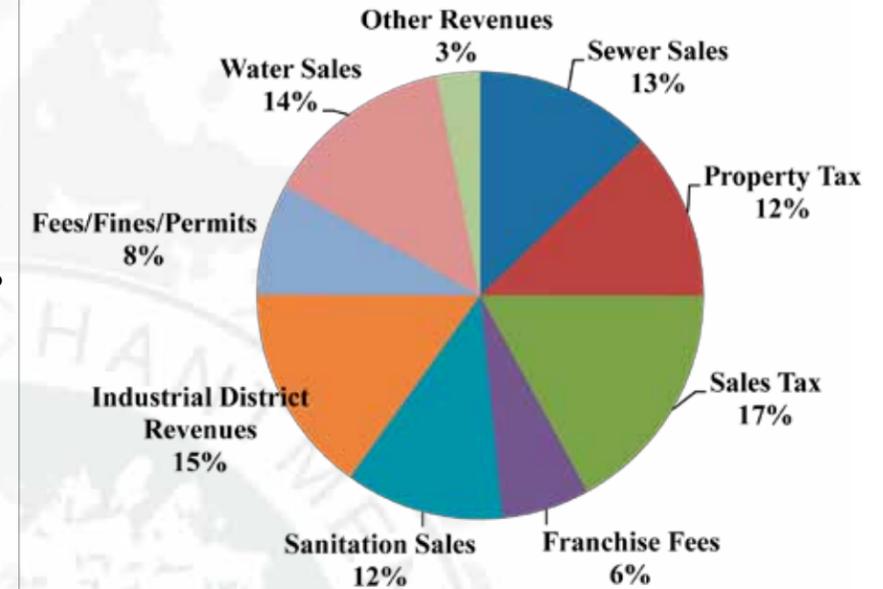
- Commercial rates will increase 3%.
- A 3% merit raise for all full time employees. Cost of this increase is \$156,000 to the General Operating Fund and \$64,000 to the Utility Operating Fund.
- A 3% end of year lump sum payment to each full-time employee from projected year-end savings. The cost of this payment will be \$242,600 to the General Operating Fund and \$70,400 to the Utility Operating Fund.
- Benefits costs primarily for health costs and retirement costs will increase, even without the proposed 3% merit raise, \$128,684 to the General Operating Fund and \$52,600 to the Utility Operating Fund.

- No new positions are proposed for FY 11-12. No authorized but "unfunded" positions are restored in FY 11-12 either. Positions still left unfunded for the third year are:
 - One service writer in the garage
 - One custodian at the Civic Center
 - the Assistant Police Chief
 - One laborer in the Drainage Department
 - One Code Enforcement Officer
- Reclassification of our utility operators to a higher pay scale to attempt to retain these people once they become certified. This cost is \$24,600 for FY 11-12.
- Restoration of the fire hydrant maintenance/testing program. This costs \$15,000/year.
- Restoring funding to the large water meter testing/maintenance program. This costs \$15,000/year.
- \$600,395 in Capital Projects (general and utility).
- \$30,000 annually split between the General and Utility Operating Funds to keep our fiber optic connection to Brazosport College once the college's site at the Four Corner's Shopping Center downtown closes.
- We will see a \$31,070 decrease in overall electric costs to the City as the result of the recently renegotiated long term electric contract with TCAP which dropped our electric rate one cent per KWH to approximately 7.4 cents.
- Natural gas costs should decline over \$20,000 in the operating budget due to lower costs, and we entered into a contract for natural gas with the General Land Office (GLO) for the Recreation Center at a lower rate than we were getting from CenterPoint.
- Gasoline and diesel costs should rise slightly across the board by about \$3,800. The sharp rise in gasoline/diesel prices has been blunted because our heavy vehicle fleet is largely operated on CNG.

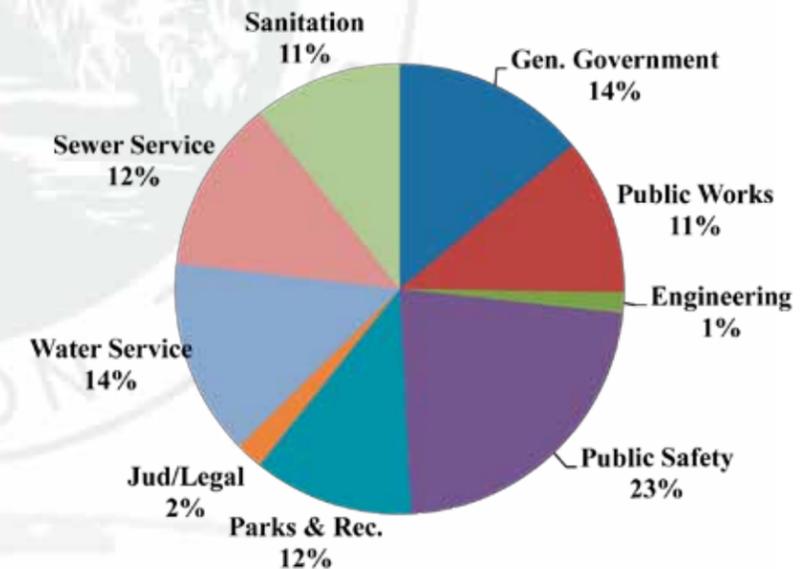
City Budget



Where does the money come from?



Where does the money go?



Ordinances & Resolutions



The following ordinances and resolutions were passed by City Council recently. For more information on these go to www.lakejackson-tx.org and check out the Code of Ordinance link or call the City Secretary's office at 415-2403.

Ordinance #	Ordinance Description
11-1957	Making the alley from This Way to Circle Way a two way alley
11-1958	Setting speed limit on SH288/332 Frontage Road to 45 mph
11-1959	Amending Chapter 14 Buildings to establish Habitable Apartments Or Abatement Of Rent when apartment is condemned; test fire alarms 1x 12 months; meet time limit for repair of boiler systems and hot water heaters, ensure vacant units are inspected prior to occupancy
11-1960	Amend Chapter 110 Zoning to include Cinerarium as a permitted use in the B-3 Institutional zone
11-1961	Ordinance calling runoff election for June 25, 2011
11-1962	Ordinance rezoning 679 W. HWY 332 Stern and Stern from R-1 Single Family Residential to B-3 Institutional
11-1963	Amend overnight parking regulations
11-1964	Amend R-2 Single Family Residential Zone for lots platted prior to July 3, 1961
11-1965	Designating right turn only on OCD at Dixie Drive from 6:30 am – 9:00 m-f
11-1966	Adding additional penalties for delinquent personal property taxes
11-1967	Rezoning tract at 655 HWY 332 west which is a 6.466 tract of land out of a 42.829 acre tract in the S.F. Austin 5 League Grant, Abstract 19 and a tract of land at 499 HWY 332 west, which is a 7.4069 acre tract out of a 1064.0725 acre tract of land from R-1 Single Family Residential to C-1 Commercial
11-1968	Rezoning 202 Acacia lot 1 block 8 Area G and 1.55 acres of former parkland located in the 100 block of N. Yaupon adjacent to lot 33, block 8, Area G from R-2 Single Family to B-3 Institutional
11-1969	Adopt tax rate of .39 cents/\$100 assessed value for FY 2011-2012
11-1970	Amending Chapter 95 Telecommunications to allow for public safety exemption for the lighting of telecommunications towers
11-1971	Authorizing the issuance of \$8,280,000 Limited Tax Refunding Bonds Series 2011; a bond purchase agreement; a paying agent/registrar agreement; an escrow agreement; and approving all other matters related thereto
11-1972	Amending Section 102.1 Utilities revising fees charged for water, sewer, garbage, and dumpster services

Resolution #	Resolution Description
11-617	Canvass May 14, 2011 City Election
11-618	Canvass June 25, 2011 Runoff Election
11-619	Denying Center Point Energy Natural Gas cost of service adjustment filing
11-620	Decrease Lake Jackson Development Corporation fund balance by \$250,000 and increase expenditures for Golf Course Operating Contingency Fund by \$250,000 for FY2010-FY2011
11-621	Call budget public hearing for August 23, 2011
11-622	Nominating Dow Chemical for Triple Jumbo Enterprise Zone Designation
11-623	Adopting FY 2011-2012 Budget
11-624	Establishing fund balance policies as required by GASB 54 (Governmental Accounting Standards Board)
11-625	Allow for mutual aid law enforcement task forces to cooperate in criminal investigations and law enforcement
11-626	Amending FY 2010-2011 budget by \$35,000 for emergency sewer line repair at FM2004 and Dunbar Park
11-627	Nominating candidate for Brazoria County Appraisal District Board

cut along dotted line



CITY OF LAKE JACKSON
 25 Oak Drive-Lake Jackson, TX 77566-5289
 Telephone 415-2434 Fax 297-9804
AUTHORIZATION FOR AUTOMATIC PAYMENT PLAN

Name on Your Utility Statement: _____

Utility Account Number: _____

Service Address: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Driver's License Number: _____ **Social Security Number:** _____

Home Phone Number: _____ **Work Phone Number:** _____

Financial Institution Name: _____

Financial Institution Address (City & State) _____

BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER TO BE CHARGED _____ **CIRCLE ONE**
 _____ **checking/savings** _____

PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING!!!!

I authorize the City of Lake Jackson to begin deductions for my monthly utility bill with the financial institution named. Enrollment in the automatic payment plan may be discontinued any time by sending a request, in writing, to the City of Lake Jackson. My authority will remain in effect until revoked by my financial institution, the City of Lake Jackson, or myself. I understand that both my financial institution and the City of Lake Jackson have the right to terminate this payment plan or my participation therein. *If I have two insufficient bank drafts within a year, the City will terminate my enrollment in bank drafting.*

I understand that I will be responsible for the first bill that I receive after the City obtains my application. However if my bank is currently set up in the bank drafting program my automatic payment plan will be effective with my first bill. This bill will have a message at the bottom stating: **BANK DRAFT-DO NOT PAY. PAYMENT WILL BE DRAFTED ON THE DUE DATE!**

Signature (Must be authorized for the account listed above) _____ Date _____

WRITE "VOID" ACROSS CHECK AND TAPE HERE
 (Please tape—DO NOT STAPLE)



City of Lake Jackson
25 Oak Drive
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

The City of  *Enchantment*

COMMUNICATION INFORMATION (Blackboard Connect CTY)

Are you signed up to receive automated phone calls from the City regarding event, projects, emergencies? If not, please do so today! You may have 4 phone numbers and 3 e-mails per household. Visit our homepage and click on NOTIFY ME. If you have questions, please contact Kim at 979-415-2407.

Blackboard
connect



Tune In Channel 16

The City of Lake Jackson has Cable Channel 16 to provide a variety of information. For questions concerning information on this channel, contact Kim Knapp at 979-415-2407.



Seniors 65 and older are eligible for a discount on water bills.

To start receiving the discount bring proof of age to the utility billing department at City Hall.