



City of Hitchcock

Newsletter December 2020



Winter E-Cycling Event

Hitchcock will host an E-cycling Event on, Saturday, January 16th, 2021 9am-1pm at The City Barn located at 8401 Schiro Road Hitchcock, Texas

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. The Hitchcock Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season.

Keep garage doors and curtains closed. Never leave vehicles unlocked.

Avoid strangers. Be cautious when allowing anyone into your home including workers for jobs such as carpet cleaning and furnace repair. Always use reputable companies that are bonded.

If you are going out of town, have a friend or neighbor pick up your mail and newspapers. Have them watch over your home.

When shopping choose parking in well-lit areas with increased pedestrian traffic and scan the parking lot before you exit your vehicle.

Always check the interior of your vehicle when you return from shopping.

Never leave any property visible in your vehicle. Keep your purchases in the trunk and out of view.

Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Use your debit card instead. If you card is lost or stolen report it immediately to your financial institution.

When driving, keep your doors locked and your windows up. Never respond to pedestrians approaching your vehicle.

2020 STREET PROJECTS STARTED FOR DECEMBER

Galveston County and the City of Hitchcock is providing for the rehabilitation of the following street segments in Hitchcock.

- Jackson Road from Main Street to Prairie Street
- Neville Avenue from Bulldog Lane to approximately 230 feet past 5th Street
- Hacker Road from 2nd Street to Caldwell Street
- Burns Street from Hacker Road to end
- Renaud Street from Mike Street to its terminus.

Rehabilitation of Jackson and Neville will include milling, base repairs and overlay with hot mix asphalt. The rehabilitation of Hacker, Burns, and Renaud will be with addition of base material, correction of soft areas, reworking of existing base, and placement of hot mix asphalt. The work is scheduled to begin in mid to late December at an estimated project cost of \$1,111,111.11. Construction is estimated to be four months.

If you are cold, they are cold too. Remember to bring your pets inside.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Holiday Safety Tips.....	1
Street Projects Start December.....	1
Dates to remember.....	1
Lead in Drinking Water.....	2
Consumer Confidence Report.....	2
Prevent Sewer Stoppages.....	2
Who Is Responsible for Leaks.....	2
What is 811.....	2
Public Notice.....	3
Get Involved.....	3
Sewer Project.....	3
Natalie.....	3
Donations Requested.....	4
Golf Cart Permits.....	4
Contact Us.....	4

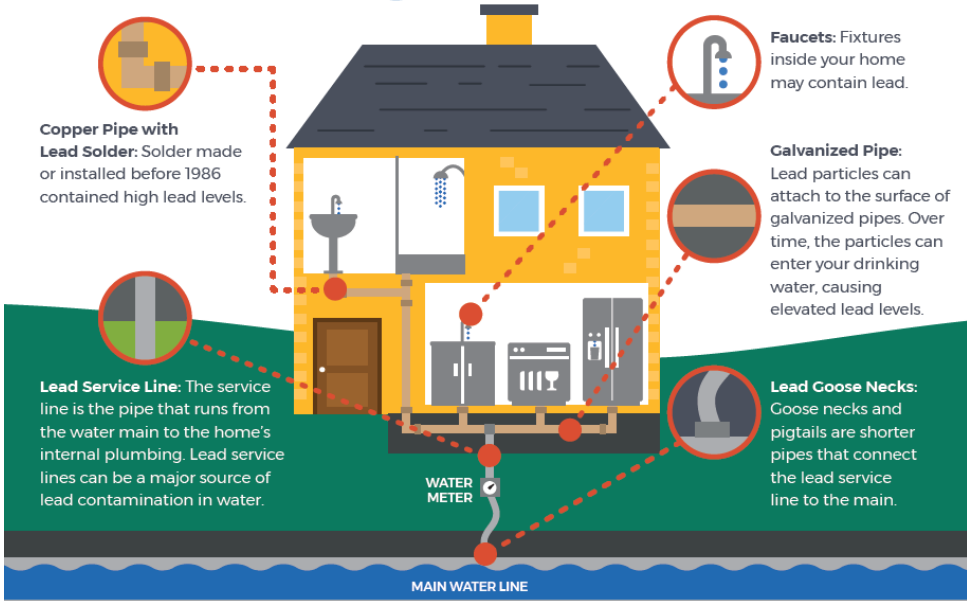
DATES TO REMEMBER

- 12/21/2020 City Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 12/24/2020 & 12/25/2020 City Hall will be closed for the Christmas Holiday
- 1/1/2021 City Hall will be closed for the New Year Holiday



CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

Sources of LEAD in Drinking Water



Reduce Your Exposure To Lead



Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. *Boiling water does not remove lead from water.*



Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).



Consider using a water filter certified to remove lead and know when it's time to replace the filter.



Before drinking, flush your pipes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, **have your water tested.**

Replace Your Lead Service Line



Water systems are required to replace lead service lines if a water system cannot meet EPA's Lead Action Level through optimized corrosion control treatment.

Replacement of the lead service line is often the responsibility of both the utility and homeowner.

Homeowners can contact their water system to learn about how to remove the lead service line.

Identify Other Lead Sources In Your Home

Lead in homes can also come from sources other than water. If you live in a home built before 1978, you may want to have your paint tested for lead. **Consider contacting your doctor to have your children tested if you are concerned about lead exposure.**



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)

A CCR is an annual water quality report delivered by community water systems to their customers. The CCR includes information on source water, the levels of detected contaminants, and compliance with drinking water rules.

The current CCR report can be found on the City's website at <http://www.cityofhitchcock.org/departments/utilities/index.php>

PREVENT SEWER STOPPAGES

The City needs your help in keeping our sewer system clean and in working order.

To avoid sewer stoppages, do **NOT** flush the following items down your toilets or drains.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Diapers | Grease |
| Panties | Contraceptives |
| Paper Towels | Clothing |
| Facial Tissue | Toys |
| Cotton Balls | Food |
| Cotton Swabs | Cigarettes |
| Kitty Litter | Hair |
| Baby Wipes | Adult Wipes |
| Gum Wrappers | |
| Candy Wrappers | |
| Cleaning Wipes or Rags | |
| Feminine Hygiene Items | |
| Adhesive Bandages | |

All of these may stop or damage the lift station pumps or other equipment

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MY WATER LEAK?

If the leak is from the street to the meter, the responsibility for the leak lies with the City. If the leak is from the meter towards the property, the property owner is responsible for the leak.

WHAT IS 811?

811 is the federally designated call before you dig number that helps homeowners and professionals avoid damaging these vital utilities. When you make the free call to 811 a few days before you dig, you'll help prevent unintended consequences such as injury to you or your family, damage to your property, utility service outages to the entire neighborhood and potential fines and repair costs.

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

The City of Hitchcock Water Contains High Levels of Lead and/or Copper

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets minimum water quality standards for public drinking water. Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

The list below has the corrosion control treatment actions which we did not complete, or properly complete, within the required time allowed by drinking water regulations.

- **Failed to submit corrosion control study by deadline**

What should I do?

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead and/or copper:

Call us at the number below to find out how to get your water tested for lead and copper.

Find out whether your pipes contain lead, lead solder, or copper.

Run your water for 15-30 seconds or until it becomes cold before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes any standing lead and copper from the pipes.

Don't cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead and copper dissolves more easily into hot water.

Do not boil your water to remove lead and copper. Excessive boiling water makes the lead and copper more concentrated – the lead and copper remains when the water evaporates.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified **within 24 hours**. Typically, lead and copper enters water supplies by leaching from lead, copper or brass pipes and plumbing components. New lead pipes and plumbing components containing lead are no longer allowed for this reason. **However**, many older homes may contain lead pipes. Your water is more likely to contain high lead levels if water pipes in/or leading to your home are made of lead or contain lead solder.

**Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Children and adults who drink water containing copper in excess could experience stomach and intestinal distress as well as liver and/or kidney damage.*

Copper Health Effects

Short term exposure: Gastrointestinal distress, Long term exposure: Liver or kidney damage, People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor if the amount of copper in their water exceeds the action level

What is being done?

A corrosion control study has been completed, and implementation of phosphate chemical treatment to prevent corrosion. Corrosion control, and necessary components, will be in place by January 2021.

For more information, please contact The City of Hitchcock at 409-986-5591 or by mail at 7423 Hwy 6 Hitchcock, TX 77563.

This notice is being sent to you by The City of Hitchcock. State Water System ID#: 084004.

GET INVOLVED

Hitchcock is Accepting Boards and Commissions Applications.

Serving on a City board or commission is an excellent way to serve your community. The City is currently accepting applications for boards and commissions. If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, please complete the on-line application and return to the City or email to the City Manager at

mngelles@cityofhitchcock.org. You may attach your resume and any additional material you would like considered with your application.

http://www.cityofhitchcock.org/departments/city_secretary/index.php

Sanitary Sewer Project

Work on the Neville Road Sanitary Sewer project will begin on Thursday, December 3 and should be completed within 21 days.

CONTINUE TO DO YOUR PART

Please continue to do your part to slow the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wear a face covering in public spaces.
- Stay at least 6 feet from other people.
- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then throw the tissue in the trash. If tissues are not available, cough and sneeze in your elbow. Do not cough and sneeze in your hands.
- Frequently clean and disinfect objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

For testing options in Galveston County, please visit www.gchd.org/testing.



BOARD GAME DRIVE

Benefiting Hitchcock ISD students. This event is sponsored by the Hitchcock ISD Education Foundation. Your donation of board games can be dropped off at any of the following locations:

Hitchcock City Hall 7423 Hwy 6 Hitchcock, TX 77563	Hitchcock ISD Admin. Bld. 7801 Neville Hitchcock, TX 77563	Hitchcock Primary School 5901 FM2004 Hitchcock, TX 77563	Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce 8300 Hwy 6 Hitchcock, TX 77563
--	--	--	--

If you have any questions, please call (409)316-6545 ext. 1580.

HITCHCOCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

The Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Toy Drive. Donations of new unopened toys will be accepted on or before December 18th. You may drop off your donation at the Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce at 8300 Hwy 6, Ste A, Hitchcock, TX.

The Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce (HCOC) is joining forces with the City of Hitchcock and the Hitchcock Police Department (HPD) Christmas 2020 Bicycle Drop Off. For information on the types of bikes needed please contact Natalie Wilson with the HPD at (409)795-1517 or Chelsea Wick with the HCOC at (409)986-9924

GOLF CART PERMITS

Golf Cart permits can be obtained at the Hitchcock Police Department during business hours M-F 8 am to 5 pm, excluding City holidays.

Prior to issuing a permit or conducting an inspection, all applicants must obtain a Golf Cart License Plate from any county tax office and must be accompanied by a 130U form. The form can be obtained online at www.galcotax.com or in person at any county tax office. You can obtain your plates in person or via USPS.



HOW TO CONTACT US

NAME	TITLE	E-MAIL	PHONE NUMBER
RANDY STRICKLIND	MAYOR	rstricklind@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)927-0058
MARY COMBS DEMBY	CITY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1	district1@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)502-0424
CHRIS ARMACOST	CITY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2	district2@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)519-9646
Wayne Newton	CITY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3	district3@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)770-3297
ANDRE PERKINS	CITY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4	district4@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 739-1375
MARIE GELLES	CITY MANAGER	mgelles@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)986-5591
WILMON SMITH	CHIEF OF POLICE	wsmith@hitchcockpd.com	(409)986-5559
RUTH ANN SORRELL	CITY SECRETARY/COURT CLERK	rsorrell@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)986-5591
CANDIE SERNA	CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	cserna@hitchcockpd.com	(409)986-5559
NATALIE WILSON	ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATOR	nwilson@hitchcockpd.com	(409)750-1517
FRED WELCH	INTERIM EXEC. DIRECTOR OF HEDC	hedc@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)502-7331
HENRY DEBORD	BUILDING INSPECTOR	inspector@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 739-0822
VACANT	PERMIT CLERK	jduncan@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
ANDY JENKINS	STREET SUPERVISOR	anthonyjenkins47@icloud.com	(409)986-5591
LEROY THOMAS	WATER/WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT	lthomas@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)761-0737
MIGUEL DELGADO	INTERIM WWTP OPERATOR		(409)986-5591
FIRE MARSHALL	DARRON RAY	darronjray@gmail.com	(409) 457-6258
ANIMAL CONTROL			(409) 948-2485
MOSQUITO CONTROL			(281) 337-4289
GARBAGE COLLECTION	AMERIWASTE		(281) 331-8400
AFTER HOUR WATER/ SEWER/WWTP			(409)986-5559
NON EMERGENCY POLICE			(409)986-5559