



City of Hitchcock

Newsletter February 2023

CITY OF HITCHCOCK SPRING CLEAN-UP MARCH 25, 2023, 7:30AM—3:00PM

**This year, the disposal site for non-hazardous clean-up will be at The City Barn.
8401 Schiro Hitchcock, Texas 77563**

Waste disposal at this event will be free of charge to residents as a service provided by the City of Hitchcock. The drop off site will be open **ONE DAY ONLY, MARCH 25, 2023**. Disposals may be made at AmeriWaste Services temporary collection point of The City Barn – 8401 Schiro, Hitchcock, Texas 77563, between 7:30am to 3:00pm.

For questions, please contact – AmeriWaste 281-331-8400 OR City of Hitchcock 409-986-5591

What you need to know:

- This service is **free of charge** during the designated clean-up days and times for **City of Hitchcock Residents Only**.
- Waste delivered must be separated by type of material by the resident.
- Clean Up activities do not apply to commercial/rental property clean ups, large property clean ups, lot or acreage clean up, or lot and property land clearing.
- Commercial tree trimmers are not eligible for this service.

Requirements for Participation:

- A current City of Hitchcock utility bill showing that you are a City of Hitchcock Resident.
- Proper identification is required at time of disposal; Texas Driver’s License or Identification Card.
- All materials must be sorted by the customer, NOT by the AmeriWaste Service or City of Hitchcock employees.

Accepted Items:

- Car Batteries
- Furniture (dressers, mattresses, box springs, sofa’s, love seats, tables, and chairs)
- Appliances, Washers, Dryers
- BBQ pits that DO NOT HAVE HOT ASH



Limits:

- Maximum of 2 pick-up truck loads per household or a maximum of one trailer load per household.
- Trailers are not to exceed 16’ long x 4’ high in size.
- No household waste.
- No Paint, Pool Chemicals, or Chemical Items
- No Propane Tanks, Microwaves, Air conditioners or items with freon
- NO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS; including automotive oils, cooking oils, filters, fluorescent light bulbs, insecticides, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers.
- NO rims or tires
- Mercury WILL NOT be accepted.
- Explosives and ammunition WILL NOT be accepted
- Computer monitors and box style televisions WILL NOT be accepted.

The City of Hitchcock and AmeriWaste, Inc. are NOT responsible for damage to vehicles or injury to citizens during this event. The City of Hitchcock and AmeriWaste, Inc. reserve the right to refuse service to anyone for not following the rules of the clean-up. Any items brought that are not listed/accepted or are over the established limits, are subject to a fee (at AmeriWaste, Inc. discretion).

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DATES TO REMEMBER	
2/20/2023 City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.	
2/28/2023 Planning and Zoning Commission at 6:00 p.m.	
4/29/2023 Lone Star Gumbeaux Festival	

HITCHCOCK POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES FBI-LEEDA TRILOGY AWARD



Leadership involves the act of motivating a group of people toward achieving an objective or goal. In a Law Enforcement setting, leadership entails the idea of directing law enforcement officers with a strategy of meeting the needs of the community while operating within a vast space encompassing a complex social, political, and organizational environment.

The Hitchcock Police Department is joining the ranks of only seventy other law enforcement agencies nationwide by receiving the highly desired FBI-LEEDA's Agency Trilogy Award. The Law Enforcement Executive Development Association, or FBI-LEEDA, is one of the nation's most prestigious providers of law enforcement leadership education and training. FBI-LEEDA's membership represents all 50 states and 14

countries. The Agency Trilogy Award is presented to those agencies in which all members of the command staff have completed the entire FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Leadership training curriculum. The trio of courses is comprised of the Supervisor Leadership Institute, Command Leadership Institute and Executive Leadership Institute.

In noting the prestige of this award, FBI-LEEDA's website states, "These agencies have demonstrated a great commitment to leadership and the communities they serve." Command Staff members Chief Wilmon Smith, Captain Jeffery Evans, and Lieutenant Brian Rusk all successfully completed the trilogy curriculum. The Hitchcock Police Department has also enrolled all supervisors into the program and will pursue the completion of the trilogy for all supervisors of the Department as a top priority.

"CLEAN-IT-UP" CAMPAIGN

State Highway 6 is the primary thoroughfare within the City of Hitchcock. Traffic flow along the highway is continuing to increase, and a traveler's first impression of the city is directly affected by the appearance of the buildings and properties along this roadway. Unfortunately, there are many locations along this roadway that are not maintained to a level that creates a favorable impression.

There are numerous instances of overgrown vegetation, trash and debris, unusable vehicles, and dilapidated structures visible along the roadway. The city is embarking on a campaign to address these unsightly and, potentially unsafe, situations.

If you are a property owner along Highway 6 please take a critical look at your properties and consider if they make a favorable impression. If not, "Clean-It-Up".

For businesses in need of financial assistance to make exterior improvements, you should contact the Hitchcock Economic Development Corporation to inquire about their Storefront Improvement Grant. This façade improvement program provides matching funds for beautification purposes to downtown commercial properties along Highway 6 between FM 2004 and FM 517. You can also visit www.hitchcockedc.com to download the application and learn more.

2023 GENERAL ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES:

Upcoming General Election for Mayor, Council Member for District 1 and District 2.

Applications for place on the ballot can be filed January 18, 2023 through February 17, 2023 by close of business day (5:00 p.m.).

April 6, 2023 is the last day to register to vote in this election cycle.

Early Voting will be April 24-28, 2023 and May 1-2, 2023.

Election Day is May 6, 2023.

Qualifications for a position are shown on the city website at: https://www.cityofhitchcock.org/departments/city_secretary/elections_information.php

Candidate packets will be available by January 18th in the City Secretary's office and on the City Website.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: WATER METERS

Why are they changing out the meters?

The water meters were changed out due to the under performance of the previous meter product that was installed. The previous meter had been installed 12 years prior and were more than 60% inaccurate. The city had no choice but to make a decision based on the decline of the utility revenues and due to increased amount of failing meters. Prior to the start of the changeout, the number of meters that were not transmitting information had surpassed 800. This resulted in the inability to collect data relative to usage, consequently forcing a manual monthly read.

When is my water meter being changed out?

The meter installation company has a route in which they are installing the meters throughout the city. They are going in numerical order based on the first 2 digits of your account number. Currently to date, there have been 2,178 meters have been changed. We are 75% through the project.

How do we log in to see water usage?

The customer portal is named EYE ON WATER. You can access it at <HTTPS://EYEONWATER.COM/SIGNUP>

How do you set us alerts in case of a leak?

When you sign up your account via the portal, if you follow the instructions, you will be able to set up any alert of your preference.

When will all the meters be changed?

The project will conclude by end of March, first of April.

How are meters read?

The project will utilize Badger® water meters connected to the Badger Advanced Metering Analytics (AMA) system called BEACON. This system will utilize cellular technology to capture the water meter data. The electronic meters will provide information, such as gallons used per hour, reverse-flow indication, and other operating data not typically available from traditional mechanical meters and registers. The electronic meters will also eliminate measurement errors due to sand, suspended particles, and pressure fluctuations.

The project complies with the Ultrasonic and Electromagnetic water meter standard, ANSI/AWWA C715-18, issued by the American Water Works Association (AWWA). The AWWA standard supports the electromagnetic and ultrasonic water meter technologies that enable water utilities to reduce unaccounted water loss and to read water usage consistently at a high level of accuracy.

Is there an app we can use to review information about our account?

YES. Once the meters are installed, and the AMI network is online, customers will have access to Badger's Eye on Water online portal and smartphone app. This app will allow customers to view, manage, and track their water usage in near real-time. More information for accessing the customer portal will be available during project implementation. <HTTPS://EYEONWATER.COM/SIGNUP>



BE PART OF THE TRADITION, BE PART OF THE EXCITEMENT, BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY, BE A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

Accepting applications for volunteers
Min 17 years of age with parental consent.
All training is paid by department.
Fun, and family friendly environment.
Call or text for more info or pick up application every
Wednesday 7pm at the station.
Hitchcock Volunteer Fire Department INC.
7005 2nd street
409-986-7131

FOLLOW US ON FACE-BOOK



We are excited to announce that the City of Hitchcock has created a Facebook Page. Follow us for important information regarding your community. Our page is for informational purposes only. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact the City Hall at (409)986-5591 or visit our website at www.cityofhitchcock.org.

PREVENT SEWER STOPPAGES

Two major concerns for all residents and administration of the City of Hitchcock.

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.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Finance Director
City Secretary

An Employment Application and Background Release Form may be downloaded from our website at www.cityofhitchcock.org or obtained at City Hall.

Submit resume, 5 professional References, completed Employment Application, and Background Release Form to City Manager, City of Hitchcock, 7423 Highway 6, P.O. Box 48, Hitchcock, Texas 77563 or by emailing mgelles@cityofhitchcock.org.

MIXING CLEANING SUPPLIES

The City would like to warn residents to be cautious before mixing cleaning supplies. Combining certain products can result in harmful results, which could be harmful to you and your family.



DO NOT MIX THESE CLEANING PRODUCTS:

Bleach + Vinegar - Bleach and vinegar mixture produces chlorine gas, which can cause coughing, breathing problems, burning and watery eyes.

Bleach + Ammonia – Bleach and ammonia produces a toxic gas called chloramine. It causes shortness of breath and chest pain.

Bleach + Rubbing Alcohol – Bleach and rubbing alcohol makes chloroform, which is highly toxic.

Hydrogen Peroxide + Vinegar – This combination makes peracetic/peroxyacetic acid, which can be highly corrosive.

HOW TO CONTACT US

NAME	TITLE	E-MAIL	PHONE NUMBER
CHRIS ARMACOST	MAYOR	mayor@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 519-9646
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WAYNE NEWTON	CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 3	district3@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)770-3297
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LEROY THOMAS	PUBLIC WORKS OPERATION MANAGER	lthomas@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 761-0737
MIGUEL DELGADO	WWTP OPERATOR	mdelgado@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
ANIMAL CONTROL			(409) 948-2485
MOSQUITO CONTROL			(800) 842-5622
GARBAGE COLLECTION	AMERIWASTE	customerservice@ameriwaste.net	(281) 331-8400
AFTER HOUR WATER/ SEWER/WWTP			(409) 795-7595
NON EMERGENCY POLICE	NON EMERGENCY POLICE		(409) 986-5559
STREET LIGHT OUTAGES			(800) 332-7143
TX DOT DITCH MAINTENANCE FM 2004, HWY 6, and FM 519 (Main St.).			(409) 978-2551