



# City of Hitchcock

Newsletter January 2021

## WINTER E-CYCLING EVENT

The City of Hitchcock will be hosting an E-Cycling Event



**Saturday, January 16, 2021 at 9:00 am-1:00 pm, at the City Barn located at 8401 Schiro Road.**

Hitchcock Residents ONLY are invited to drop off selected items free of cost. You will be required to provide a Texas Identification Card and current utility bill to participate.

**Acceptable Materials:** computers, routers, hubs, switches, laptops, power cords, cables, UPS, cellular phones, VCR's, scrap metal wire, monitors, printers, scanners, fax machines, servers, DVD players, cable boxes, ink jet cartridges, TV's (CRT TV's up to 36") mice and keyboards, telephones. Toner cartridges, desktop copiers, flat panel TV's up to 55".

**Unacceptable Materials:** vacuum cleaners, CRT TV's larger than 36", weed eaters, radios, thermostats (any type), smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fluorescent light bulbs, appliances, refrigerators, stoves, washer and dryers. Clocks, paint cans, kitchen appliances, freezers, microwaves, medical/biohazards, household alkaline batteries, AA, AAA, C, D, 9V, home appliances, space heaters, rice cookers, air conditioners, oil waste.

*The City of Hitchcock and CompuCycle are NOT responsible for damage to vehicles or injury to any citizen during this event. Both, the City of Hitchcock and CompuCycle reserve the right to refuse services to anyone not following protocol for this event.*

## CITY EQUIPMENT FOR AUCTION

Several vehicles and equipment from the City's inventory will be available to bid on by January 22, 2021 on [govdeals.com](http://govdeals.com) a Government Surplus Auction Website. Items may be viewed at the City Barn Located at 8401 Schiro Rd during normal business hours.

### Items for auction:

5' Box Cutter	2012 For F-350	Rex Mixer
1967 Caterpillar Grader	2012 Ford F-750	White Light Tower
1997 Ford F-150	2012 Chevy Caprice	Yellow Light Tower
1999 Leeboy Paving Machine	2012 Chevy Tahoe	2006 Cat 928gz Loader
1999 Street Sweeper	John Deere Turf Cutter	2004 New Holland TL100 with Flex wing

## 2021 GENERAL ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES:

Upcoming General Election for Mayor, Councilmember for District 1 and District 2.

First Day to file applications for place on the ballot is January 13, 2021 through February 12, 2021 by close of business day (5:00 p.m.).

April 1, 2021 is the last day to register to vote in this election cycle.

Early Voting will be April 19, - 23, 2021 and April 26-27, 2021.

Election Day is May 1, 2021. Qualifications for a position are shown on the city website at:

[https://www.cityofhitchcock.org/departments/city\\_secretary/elections\\_information.php](https://www.cityofhitchcock.org/departments/city_secretary/elections_information.php)

Candidate packets will be available by January 13th in the City Secretary's office and on the City Website.

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

1/11/2021 City Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

1/18/2021 City Offices will be closed for the MLK Holiday

## **BENEFITS OF GETTING A COVID-19 VACCINE**

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) understands that some people may be concerned about getting vaccinated now that COVID-19 vaccines are available in the United States. While more COVID-19 vaccines are being developed as quickly as possible, routine processes and procedures remain in place to ensure the safety of any vaccine that is authorized or approved for use. Safety is a top priority, and there are many reasons to get vaccinated.

### **Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines**

*FACT: COVID-19 vaccines will not give you COVID-19*

Below is a summary of the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination based on what we currently know. The CDC will continue to update this information as more data becomes available.

- COVID-19 vaccination will help keep you from getting COVID-19
- All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the United States have been shown to be highly effective at preventing COVID-19.
- All COVID-19 vaccines that are in development are being carefully evaluated in clinical trials and will be authorized or approved only if they make it substantially less likely you will get COVID-19.
- Based on what the CDC knows about vaccines for other diseases and early data from clinical trials, experts believe that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may also help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19.
- Getting vaccinated yourself may also protect people around you, particularly people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Experts continue to conduct more studies about the effect of COVID-19 vaccination on severity of illness from COVID-19, as well as its ability to keep people from spreading the virus that causes



### **COVID-19 vaccination is a safer way to help build protection**

- COVID-19 can have serious, life-threatening complications, and there is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. And if you get sick, you could spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you.
- Clinical trials of all vaccines must first show they are safe and effective before any vaccine can be authorized or approved for use, including COVID-19 vaccines. The known and potential benefits of a COVID-19 vaccine must outweigh the known and potential risks of the vaccine for use under what is known as an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).
- Getting COVID-19 may offer some natural protection, known as immunity. Current evidence suggests that reinfection with the virus that causes COVID-19 is uncommon in the 90 days after initial infection. However, experts don't know for sure how long this protection lasts, and the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 far outweighs any benefits of natural immunity. COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you by creating an antibody (immune system) response without having to experience sickness.
- Both natural immunity and immunity produced by a vaccine are important parts of COVID-19 disease that experts are trying to learn more about, and CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available.

### **COVID-19 vaccination will be an important tool to help stop the pandemic**

- Wearing masks and social distancing help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others, but these measures are not enough. Vaccines will work with your immune system so it will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed.
- The combination of getting vaccinated and following CDC's recommendations to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from COVID-19.
- Stopping a pandemic requires using all the tools we have available. As experts learn more about how COVID-19 vaccination may help reduce spread of the disease in communities, CDC will continue to update the



## Texas Department of Insurance COASTAL COUNTY RESIDENTS:

Before doing any construction in the City of Hitchcock, please contact your insurance agent about the Windstorm Inspections Program in order to obtain or maintain windstorm and hail insurance through the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA).

Windstorm insurance inspections under this program must be conducted by a Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) inspector or an engineer appointed by the commissioner of insurance.

**Important:** TDI inspectors are unable to inspect a property after construction is completed. Therefore, **all inspections must be made during the construction phase.**

The following projects typically require an inspection for windstorm insurance purposes:

New Structures	Repairs	Additions
Re-roofs	Alterations	A/C Mechanical

If you have any questions or need additional information, please go online at [www.tdi.texas.gov/wind](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wind) or call the number below.

WINDSTORM INSPECTIONS PROGRAM: (800) 248-6032

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.cityofhitchcock.org/departments/city_secretary/index.php)

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### DEFEND YOUR DRAINS!

Many items can clog pipes and cause blockages even if labeled "flushable." Throw them in the trash to prevent expensive plumbing repairs and sewer stoppages.

**Wipes** - Wipes don't break down when flushed down the toilet.

**Paper Towles** - Paper Towles are designed to be absorbent and strong and do not break down in water, so they will clog your plumbing.

**Feminine Hygiene** - Pads and tampons are very absorbent and don't break down like toilet paper. They commonly cause plumbing issues.

**Personal Care** - Everyday personal care products like cotton swabs and dental floss tangle up in your drains and can clog your plumbing.



### WAYS TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL



**Online at**  
[cityofhitchcock.org](http://cityofhitchcock.org)  
or by automatic bill pay



**By Phone at**  
(833) 282-0826



**In Person at City Hall**  
7423 Hwy. 6  
Or the Drop Box  
In the parking lot



**By Mail at**  
7423 Hwy 6  
Hitchcock, TX 77563

*Cash, Check, Money Order, Credit Card*

*The City of Hitchcock bills every month for water, sewer, and garbage services. If you have questions about you bill, contact the Utility Department at (409) 986-5591.*

**A \$50.00 administrative processing fee is added when a bill is not paid by the cut off date.  
This fee is for the cost of managing the delinquency process for past due accounts.**



Hitchcock is a beautiful community filled with wonderful people. Community pride means going above and beyond to make your community stand out from the rest. It means having pride in your home and the property you live on. In my position as our Code Compliance official, I visit every corner of our city and meet the people that make our community unique. Some live in million-dollar homes, and others in quaint historic homes. Each and every one of you make this city what it is, **our** community. As a new year begins, I would like to thank each person that took steps in compliance requests. At times, laws and ordinances seem over whelming but they are put in place to protect and make our community a safer and better place to live. The effort put forth did not go unnoticed and it is an indication of community pride.

We ask our community to help us catch those that think they can dump their mattresses, tires, tv's and trash in our open spaces and ditches. Anyone that reveals a culprit will remain anonymous.

- Candie Serna, Code Compliance  
(409) 986-5591

**WORKING WITHOUT PERMITS**

Any type of construction completed on your property requires a permit. This is a very common violation that can have expensive consequences such as citations, additional fees or removal of unpermitted work. Call the Permit Department at (409)986-5591 before beginning any work.

**HAVE YOU HAD YOUR BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE TESTED?**

These inspections must be conducted on an annual basis by a licensed TCEQ backflow prevention assembly tester (BPAT). Results of these inspections must be sent to the City Public Utilities Department at 7423 Hwy 6, Hitchcock, TX 77563. Failure to comply with this state regulation can result in harmful bacteria and enzymes in the public water supply. Your compliance with these inspections is one of the many ways you can help the City keep our water supply clear from contamination.

If you have any questions, please call Hitchcock City Hall at (409)986-5591.

**HOW TO CONTACT US**

NAME	TITLE	E-MAIL	PHONE NUMBER
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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