

DECEMBER 2023 / JANUARY 2024

# The Gateway

UNIVERSAL CITY COMMUNITY MAGAZINE



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**  
*and a Happy New Year*



# UNIVERSAL CITY HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

## THANKSGIVING

No Collection  
Thursday, November 23, 2023

*Regular Pick-up Day* → *Holiday Pick-up Day*

Thursday → Friday  
November 23 → November 24  
Friday → Saturday  
November 24 → November 25

No change to Saturday Collection

## NEW YEAR'S

No Collection  
Monday, January 1, 2024

*Regular Pick-up Day* → *Holiday Pick-up Day*

Monday → Tuesday  
January 1 → January 2  
Tuesday → Wednesday  
January 2 → January 3  
Wednesday → Thursday  
January 3 → January 4  
Thursday → Friday  
January 4 → January 5  
Friday → Saturday  
January 5 → January 6

No change to Saturday Collection

## CHRISTMAS

No Collection  
Monday, December 25, 2023

*Regular Pick-up Day* → *Holiday Pick-up Day*

Monday → Tuesday  
December 25 → December 26  
Tuesday → Wednesday  
December 26 → December 27  
Wednesday → Thursday  
December 27 → December 28  
Thursday → Friday  
December 28 → December 29  
Friday → Saturday  
December 29 → December 30

No change to Saturday Collection

## CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

January 8th-12th  
Disposal containers will be available at the Public Works yard, 265 Kitty Hawk.  
Only live Christmas Trees will be accepted.

Please contact WM  
with any questions on  
the holiday collection  
schedule.

1-800-800-5804

Schedule available at  
[www.UCTX.gov](http://www.UCTX.gov)



# Universal City Municipal Directory

2150 Universal City Blvd.  
Universal City, TX 78148  
Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Administration** - The following can be reached by dialing 210.659.0333,  
and then entering the extension number listed:

Building Official .....	Jaclyn Redmon .....	7 2 4
City Clerk / EDC.....	Kristin Mueller.....	7 0 1
City Manager .....	Kim Turner .....	7 0 1
Code Compliance Officer .....	.....	7 2 5
Court Administrator .....	Brenda Watkins.....	7 1 5
Community Relations.....	Regina Carmona.....	7 2 1
Development Services.....	Michael Cassata.....	7 2 0
Finance.....	Christine Green.....	7 0 8
Fire Chief.....	Todd Perna.....	7 8 6
Health Official.....	Anabel Maldonado.....	7 2 7
Permit/Zoning.....	Linda Iglehart.....	7 2 3
Police Chief.....	Johnny Siemens.....	7 5 2
Stormwater Inspector .....	Wes Keller.....	7 2 2
Water Billing.....	.....	7 1 0

### Departments

Animal Care & Control .....	210-659-0333	EXT. 700
Fire Department .....	210-659-0333	EXT. 250
Golf Course .....	210-659-0333	EXT. 653
Library.....	210-659-0333	EXT. 048
Parks/Pavilion Rental.....	210-659-0333	EXT. 364
Police Department.....	210-659-0333	EXT. 353
Public Works.....	210-659-0333	EXT. 364

### City Council

**Mayor**  
**John Williams**  
mayor@uctx.gov  
210-659-0333 Ext 737

**Councilmember**  
**Christina Fitzpatrick**  
Council1@uctx.gov  
210-659-0333 Ext 734

**Councilmember**  
**Phil Vaughan**  
Council4@uctx.gov  
210-619-0731

**Councilmember**  
**Paul Najarian**  
Council6@uctx.gov  
210-659-0333 Ext 732

**Councilmember**  
**Ashton Bulman**  
Council5@uctx.gov  
210-659-0333 Ext 733

**Councilmember**  
**Bear Goolsby**  
Council2@uctx.gov  
210-659-0333 Ext 735

**Councilmember**  
**Steven Buck**  
Council3@uctx.gov  
210-659-0333 Ext 736

[www.UCTX.gov](http://www.UCTX.gov)

**For EMS, Police and Fire Emergencies  
ALWAYS Call 911**

Get notified of emergencies affecting the City or your neighborhood! Sign up for Blackboard Connect free of charge, [www.UCTX.Gov/Connect](http://www.UCTX.Gov/Connect). Choose how you get notified: text, landline, cellphone, or email. All information is kept confidential. Get Connected, Stay Informed — Blackboard Connect.

# UNIVERSAL CITY MEETINGS DECEMBER 2023 / JANUARY 2024



- **December 4, 2023** ..... **CANCELLED**  
*Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting*
- **December 5, 2023** ..... **CANCELLED**  
*City Council Meeting*
- **December 14, 2023** ..... **5:00pm**  
*Economic Development Corporation Meeting*
- **December 18, 2023** ..... **6:00pm**  
*Board of Adjustment Meeting*
- **December 19, 2023** ..... **6:30pm**  
*City Council Meeting*
- **December 27, 2023** ..... **6:00pm**  
*Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting*

### ★★★ HOLIDAY SCHEDULE ★★★

**December 22, 2023 • City Offices close at noon**

**CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED  
DEC. 24-25 and JAN. 1, 2024**

- **January 2, 2024** ..... **6:30pm**  
*City Council Meeting*
- **January 8, 2024** ..... **6:00pm**  
*Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting*
- **January 11, 2024** ..... **5:00pm**  
*Economic Development Corporation Meeting*
- **January 15, 2024** ..... **City Holiday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
- **January 16, 2024** ..... **6:30pm**  
*City Council Meeting*
- **January 17, 2024** ..... **5:00pm**  
*Library Advisory Commission Meeting*
- **January 22, 2024** ..... **6:00pm**  
*Board of Adjustment Meeting*
- **January 23, 2024** ..... **6:00pm**  
*Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting*

thank you!

## LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Mayor John Williams, City Council, and Staff of Universal City wish to extend a heartfelt appreciation to the residents whose dedication and volunteering efforts have played an integral role in making 2023 a success. Your contributions have been invaluable to the functioning of various boards, commissions, councils, and events, all of which are essential in making Universal City a wonderful place to live, work, and enjoy.

### BOARDS, ORGANIZATIONS & COUNCILS

Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association  
 Homes for the Homeless  
 Municipal Court Volunteers  
 Friends of the Universal City Library  
 Economic Development Corporation  
 Library Advisory Commission  
 UC Library  
 Olympia Hills Volunteers  
 Parks and Recreation Commission  
 Planning & Zoning Commission  
 Animal Shelter Volunteers  
 Board of Adjustment/Appeals  
 Parks Partners

Thank you for your selfless contributions and for embodying the true spirit of community. Your dedication has made a lasting difference and are sincerely grateful for your ongoing support. Here's to the incredible volunteers – your generosity and commitment are deeply appreciated.

Adryanna Ramirez  
 Aeric Miles  
 Alexis Adams  
 Alicia Walldov  
 Amy Whiteman-Rector  
 Andrea Williams  
 Andrea Williams  
 Ann Meadows  
 Ann Williams  
 Ashton Bulman  
 Barbara Cummings  
 Barry Wooding  
 Bill Fitzpatrick  
 Bill Goss  
 Bob Lanneau  
 Brian Thomas  
 Bruce Ferrell  
 Bryan Kuhlmann  
 Caleb Schaefer  
 Carmen Flinn  
 Carol Price  
 Carol Smoot  
 Catherine (Cece) Huston  
 Catherine Alvarado  
 Catherine Verburqt  
 Cathy Tolbert  
 Cheryl Maxwell  
 Christina Fitzpatrick  
 Chuck Consla  
 Cindy Ficklin  
 Clarence Johnson  
 Corey Schaefer  
 Cynthia Bradley  
 Cynthia Spurlock  
 Dan Hancock  
 Darlene Copeland  
 David Hartman  
 David Kinney  
 Dawn Field  
 Debbie Consla  
 Deborah Hernandez  
 Deborah Horton  
 Delilah Meiring  
 Denise Hayden  
 Devona Trigilio  
 Diane Johnson  
 Diane Woods  
 Don Smith  
 Donna Ash  
 Dr. Ambrose Uriegas  
 Elizabeth Dixon  
 Erick Velasquez  
 Esther Pinter  
 Gail Graham  
 Gary Reichle

Gena Alvarez  
 Glenn Putt  
 Grace Wilkerson  
 Harry Westerfield  
 Isaac Schaefer  
 James (Jim) Woody  
 James Bartlett  
 James Johnson  
 James Trigilio  
 Jane Floyd  
 Janet Tennis  
 Jeanne Stinson  
 Jerry Browning  
 Jimmy Sue Svalberg  
 Joanna Dubbs  
 Jodi Williams-Thomas  
 John Hudson  
 John Ketz  
 John Williams  
 John Williams  
 John Williams  
 Judy Cymbalist  
 Judy Fichter  
 Judy Schindler  
 Justin Villa  
 Karen Van Lieshout  
 Ken Reinikka  
 Kris England  
 Lamar Williams  
 Lauren Mullins  
 Laurie Hancock  
 Leaird Meadows  
 LeoDavis  
 Leonard Dagg  
 Leslie Smith  
 Linda Goss  
 Linda Sefton  
 Lionel Robinson  
 Lisa Davis  
 Lisa Quates  
 Lori Putt  
 Lori Saenz  
 Lorraine Schwartzbach  
 Lorynne Hernandez  
 Louann Shircliffe  
 Lynne Diaz  
 Marcia Smith  
 Maria Barnhardt  
 Marijke Reed  
 Marilyn Weed  
 Mario Garcia  
 Marissa Nolan  
 Mark Mason  
 Marlene Cullen  
 Mary Andrews  
 Mary Beth Hoos

Mary Eddy  
 Mary Flack  
 Mary Medina  
 Mary Quandt  
 Mary Wigle  
 MicahSchaefer  
 Mike Hoffman  
 Mike Saenz  
 Mike Voeller  
 Naaman Schaefer  
 Nicholas Ferguson  
 Oly Schaefer  
 Pamela Hernandez  
 Pamela Woody  
 Patricia Candia  
 Paul Acerra  
 Paul Najarian  
 Peter Johnson  
 Phil Vaughan  
 Rachel Voeller  
 Reno Lozano  
 "Richard ""Dick"" Neville"  
 Richard Crow  
 Robert Whiting  
 Roberta Castano  
 Roger Pritt  
 Roland Hinojosa  
 Ron Jackson  
 Ronnie Pena  
 Rosie Stein  
 Ruth Lanneau  
 S. Bear Goolsby  
 Sandra Mason  
 Scott Dagg  
 Sheila Garcia  
 Sid Dukes  
 Silas Schaefer  
 Steven Buck  
 Sue Reinikka  
 Suzanne Poland  
 Tammy Banks  
 Teri Nelson  
 Tim Morris  
 Tom England  
 Tom Maxwell  
 Tyler Schaefer  
 Vernon Car  
 Vicki Senegele  
 William Griffin  
 William Hill  
 William Shelby  
 Yvonne Lineberger  
 Zachary Carlton



# EVENTS CALENDAR

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

## UC FIRE DEPARTMENT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 7-11AM**

Universal City Fire Station  
2160 Universal City Blvd.

Enjoy all you can eat pancakes and sausage breakfast for \$5 per person. Kids 11 and under eat for free. This popular breakfast supports the Universal City Professional Firefighters Association's Burn Out Fund.

## UNIVERSAL CITY TREE LIGHTING

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 6-8PM**

Universal City Municipal Building  
2150 Universal City Blvd.

Kick-off the holidays at the UC Tree Lighting. Watch Mayor John Williams and the Universal City Council light the City Tree then enjoy a variety of free treats and activities for the whole family.

- Picture with Santa
- Roasting Marshmallows & Making Smores
- Inflatable Bounce House & Christmas Maze
- Photo Snow Globe
- Hot Chocolate, Cookies, Popcorn, Orange Leaf Froyo, Mexican Coffee, Tamales, Coffee, Donuts
- Send a Letter to Santa
- Meet Santa's Reindeer
- Special performances by Rose Garden Elementary School Choir.

Thank you to the many community sponsors that help make this event possible: A&A Plumbing, Randolph Mail Center, Hillside Primary Care, Daniels and Daniels Real Estate, State Farm Agent Luis Corral, Cinfully Delicious Cupcakes, Four Kings Bakery, Taqueria Acapulco Restaurant and El Toro Restaurant, Orange Leaf (Forum), and Mr. Gatti's Pizza.

## HOLIDAY JINGLE AND MINGLE

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 5-8PM**

Olympia Hills Golf Course and Event Center  
12900 Mount Olympus

Holiday cheer for the whole family! Event is free and open to the public. Food and drink are available for purchase.

- Free Photos with Santa
- S'mores Stations
- Live Music by Zach Carney (including Christmas Favorites)
- Hot Chocolate Bar
- Holiday themed Food & Drink Specials

## FLASHLIGHT NIGHTS

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 19TH &**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH , 6:30-8:30PM**

Olympia Hills Golf Course and Event Center  
12900 Mount Olympus

Take a walk around the beautiful Olympia Hills Golf Course and use your flashlights to find the items on the Scavenger Hunt.

**COMING SOON**  
**SNOWFEST 2024!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
FOR THE BIGGEST FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR,  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18  
FROM 1-8PM.

## DECK THE HALLS *safely*

Absolutely, holiday decorations are festive, but safety is crucial. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

### ■ CHECK LIGHTS

Inspect lights for frayed wires, broken sockets, or loose connections. Replace damaged strings and use outdoor lights for outdoor decorations.

### ■ USE OUTDOOR-RATED LIGHTS

Ensure lights used outdoors are designated for outdoor use to withstand weather conditions.

### ■ PLUG SAFETY

Avoid overloading electrical outlets by following manufacturer's guidelines for the number of light strands that can be connected. Use surge protectors and timers for added safety.

### ■ TURN OFF LIGHTS

Turn off all holiday lights and decorations before going to bed or leaving the house to prevent potential fire hazards.

### ■ STEADY LADDERS

When hanging decorations, use a sturdy ladder on a flat surface. Avoid standing on furniture or unsteady surfaces.

*Remember, safety should always be a priority, especially during the festive season. Taking precautions can help prevent accidents and ensure a joyful holiday for everyone!*

### ■ FIRE SAFETY

Keep decorations away from heat sources like candles, fireplaces, and heaters. Use flameless candles instead of traditional ones to reduce fire risks.

### ■ SECURE DECORATIONS

Ensure outdoor decorations are firmly secured to withstand wind and weather. Avoid blocking exits or pathways.

### ■ CHOOSE SAFE ORNAMENTS

Opt for non-flammable and non-toxic decorations, especially when decorating around children or pets.

### ■ TREE CARE

If using a live tree, keep it well-watered to prevent it from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.

### ■ CHILDPROOFING

Keep small decorations, ornaments, and batteries away from young children to avoid choking hazards.

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# PUMPKIN PATCH PERFECTION

## *A Season to Remember*



As the autumn leaves fell and the air turned crisp, the Universal City Pumpkin Patch emerged as a vibrant hub of fall festivities. From October 7th through October 31st, families, friends, and pumpkin enthusiasts flocked to this seasonal extravaganza, creating cherished memories while contributing to a cause bigger than themselves.



At the heart of the Universal City Pumpkin Patch was the dedicated team of Parks Partners, orchestrating the event with precision and passion. Their commitment to fostering a sense of community was evident in the vibrant tapestry of volunteers, spanning generations. These volunteers worked over 420 hours to help bring the patch to life and maintain its operation through October.

One of the standout features of the Universal City Pumpkin Patch is its commitment to giving back. This year, the Patch reached new heights by donating back over \$49,000 to 25 non-profit organizations. The ripple

effect of this generosity touched various sectors of the community, leaving a lasting impact on those in need. From local schools to community organizations, the Pumpkin Patch became a beacon of support for diverse causes.

Beyond the financial contributions, the Pumpkin Patch served as a symbol of community unity. Families, friends, and neighbors came together to celebrate the spirit of fall, forging connections that extend far beyond the patch's pumpkin-lined aisles. The laughter of children, the warmth of shared experiences, and the joy of picking the perfect pumpkin all contributed to an atmosphere of togetherness.

The Universal City Pumpkin Patch offered an array of activities for visitors of all ages. Whether it was navigating the twists and turns of the inflatable corn maze or finding the ideal pumpkin to carve, each moment was infused with the essence of the season. On Saturday, October 14th, hundreds gathered in

anticipation of the solar eclipse to get the perfect view of the "Ring of Fire". At its peak, the energy of the cheers and applause could be heard for blocks and was truly an event to remember.

A heartfelt thank you extends to the community's generous local business sponsors, whose unwavering support made the Universal City Pumpkin Patch a resounding success.

- Joon Bug Pest Control
- A&A Plumbing
- 6S Contracting
- Tint World
- Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Colling & Mott, LLP
- Hill Electric
- Mr. Gatti's Pizza
- Hands N Harmony
- Daniels and Daniels Real Estate
- State Farm, Luis Corral-Agent
- Shipley Do-Nuts
- Gather Brewing Co.

Their commitment to the spirit of giving and community building has been instrumental in bringing joy and festivities to the City.

As the gates closed on October 31st, the Universal City Pumpkin Patch left an indelible mark on the community. Beyond the festive façade, this seasonal celebration became a platform for giving, a testament to the power of volunteers, and a source of joy for all who participated. The success of this year's Pumpkin Patch not only illuminated the beauty of fall but also highlighted the incredible impact a community can have when they come together for a common purpose. Until next year, the spirit of the Universal City Pumpkin Patch will linger, reminding us of the magic that happens when people unite for the greater good.



# Congratulations!

**AVERY LUNSFORD**  
**UTILITIES ANALYST**



Avery will be retiring in January 2023 after twenty-nine years of service with Universal City. Avery has been instrumental in securing over \$2 million in parks funding over the last five years. He has served as a member of the Regional Water Development Group (RWRDG) management council helping to secure

Edwards Aquifer water rights for the City. He has also served as the Secretary for the Regional Water Alliance (RWA) which assists member Cities with long term water planning. Additionally, Avery also worked with Bexar County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to obtain funding for drainage and street improvements as well as helping to obtain grant funding from the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and also the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA). Avery also initiated and had oversight of the City's backflow management program. When his sons were young, Avery was a youth sports coach. Avery is also an avid collector. He is a naturally quiet person until the subject of history is the topic. No one outdoes Avery and his vast knowledge of historical people and events.

**TRACY WOODY**  
**GENERAL SERVICES**

Tracy Woody will be retiring in December 2023 after fifteen years of service. Tracy started with the City in the Parks department in 2008, but quickly moved to take on other projects as well. Tracy's work has made him easily

recognized by many due to his assistance and work at most of the City sponsored events. Among many of his assigned duties, Tracy helped maintain the drainage rights of ways, regularly operated the street sweeper, and created and maintained the majority of the City's residential street signs. In 2014, the legislature requirement for street signs changed and Tracy took on the task of changing each City street sign over a four-year period. Tracy's wife Margo retired several years ago and no doubt the two of them have some spectacular adventures awaiting them. As a couple, the love spending time fishing, car racing, and attending all sorts of music events.



**BLAKE PARTRIDGE**  
**UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT**



Blake will be retiring in January 2024 after thirty-four years of service. Blake started his career with Universal City in 1989 as the Utility Serviceman for twelve years, then as the Utility Inspector for two years before serving as the Utility Superintendent for the last twenty years. As the Public

Works Utility Superintendent, Blake has competed for the best tasting water in the state of Texas where he won 7 "Best Tasting Ground Water" awards in the State from the Texas Water Utility Association! He then set his sights on the American Water Works Association (AWWA) for their "Best Tasting Water in Texas" award in 2015. Once again,

the City water department won the best tasting water award for the State of Texas by the AWWA. Blake represented Universal City at the national competition in Anaheim, California where Universal City water department came in 2nd place in the nation for "Best Tasting Water". Blake has also served 13 years on the Northeast Partnership as the representative on the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Technical Advisory Committee. During his tenure with the MPO, he was able to secure funds for several road projects for Universal City and neighboring communities. Projects included FM 1518, from IH-10 over to IH-35; the Kitty Hawk Road project, from Universal City Boulevard to Toepperwein Road; and the recent E. Aviation road project. In the last thirteen years, Blake was successful in assisting the Northeast Partnership community members with over \$70 million in road projects. In his spare time, Blake races motorcycles, competes in tractor pulls, frequents country music shows, and is always on the go with his wife Ivey, daughter Madison, and his "little buddy" grandson Carter.

**RAY PEREZ**  
**GENERAL SERVICES SUPERINTENDENT**

Ray Perez will be retiring in February 2024 after 35 years of dedicated service. Ray came to work for Universal City in 1989 with extensive experience as an equipment operator for Parks Maintenance. He very quickly moved up to the Leadman position within the Street Department. Ray did a



small stint as the interim Public Works Director and was then promoted to the Streets and Parks Superintendent position for the last 22 years. Ray has a calm and steady demeanor and has diligently trained and overseen as many as fifteen crewmen at a time. Ray is an avid golfer, outdoorsman, a DIY guy, and a modern day "MacGyver" with his unconventional problem-solving skills. Papa Ray has seven grandsons and one granddaughter. Husband Ray loves to travel with his wife Sheila. They go camping, fishing, and enjoy all that nature has to offer.

*Service to others is a major component of the success of Universal City. The Mayor, Councilmembers, fellow team members, and residents would like to thank Avery, Tracy, Blake, and Ray for their many dedicated years of service. Individually and collectively the imprint they will leave on Universal City is phenomenal. Thank you for your dedication and desire to serve!*

Taxes

Bookkeeping

Audits



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Universal City, TX 78148

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# A SNOWY DAY IN TEXAS

*Family Holiday Event*

Celebrate Winter at the library with a “Snowy Day in Texas” event! Special family story time, winter themed crafts, and more.

**Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
starting at 11:00 AM.**

*(Event will be re-scheduled in event of run-off elections)*



## SONGWRITING WORKSHOP

with TCA Artist George Ensle: **Soldier, Songs, and Voices**  
Saturday January 20  
12:30pm – 2:00pm.

Learn the basic elements of a song, crafting tools, and how to take feelings, experiences and story ideas and turn them into song. For all veterans, military personnel, and songwriters at all levels.

For more information on all library programs, please visit our website at [uctx.gov/library](http://uctx.gov/library) or follow us on Facebook & Instagram.



# CALENDAR

## DECEMBER

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

Youth Programs will be on a Holiday Break from December 19, 2023 – January 5, 2024.

#### Storytime: Read, Sing, and Learn together!

Join us for weekly story times on Tuesdays & Wednesdays in the meeting room.

#### Pre-school (ages 3-5):

Tuesdays @10:00am

#### Toddlers (ages 2-3):

Tuesdays @11:00am

#### Babies (ages 0-24 months):

Wednesdays @10:00am

#### EXPLORATORIUM:

Tuesdays @4:00pm in the Meeting Room. Various STEAM projects and other cool activities such as crafting, building, and gaming. Each week is something a little different from the last. Ages 6 and up \*Room subject to change.

### ADULT PROGRAMS (18 AND UP):

All programs will be on a Holiday Break from December 26 – December 30, 2023

#### Crafty Crew:

Wednesdays @1:00pm in the Meeting Room. Bring your own personal crafty project to work on and meet with other crafters for personal creative focus and great conversation. Enjoy crochet, embroidery, adult coloring, card making and more.

#### Uni{VERSE}al Voices Creative Writing Group:

Thursday December 14 at 3:00pm in the Activity Room. Develop and practice your writing skills and meet with other writers-new and aspiring!

#### Young @ Hearts Bingo (Senior Programs):

Friday December 1 & Friday December 15 @1:00pm in the Meeting Room. Open to Seniors ages 60 and up only.

### FAMILY PROGRAMS:

#### Family Movie Matinee:

December 16 @11:00am in the Meeting Room. Bring the family for a showing of a holiday

favorite for the whole family; popcorn included! \*Event subject to cancellation.

[uctx.gov/library](http://uctx.gov/library)

\*For more information and updates on all library programs, please visit [www.UCTX.gov/Library](http://www.UCTX.gov/Library) and follow the UC Library on Facebook & Instagram.



## JANUARY

### YOUTH PROGRAMS:

Resume Tuesday January 9, 2024.

#### Storytime: Read, Sing, and Learn together!

Join us for weekly story times on Tuesdays & Wednesdays in the meeting room.

#### Pre-school (ages 3-5):

Tuesdays @10:00am

#### Toddlers (ages 2-3):

Tuesdays @11:00am

#### Babies (ages 0-24 months):

Wednesdays @10:00am

#### EXPLORATORIUM:

Tuesdays @4:00pm in the Meeting Room. Various STEAM projects and other cool activities such as crafting, building, and gaming. Each week is something a little different from the last. Ages 6 and up \*Room subject to change.

### ADULT PROGRAMS (18 AND UP):

#### Taste Table Club:

Wednesday, January 17 @1:00pm in the Meeting room. Love to make and taste new recipes? Select a recipe from this month's selected cookbook to bring for all to try. Best recipe wins a gift card to H-E-B. Registration is required and spots are limited. Sign-up at the circulation desk.

#### True Crime Book Club:

"Tangled Vines" by John Glatt on Saturday, January 20 @11:00am in the Meeting room. No registration required.

#### Uni{VERSE}al Voices Creative Writing Group:

2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 3:00pm in the Activity Room for some creative writing! Develop and practice your writing skills and meet with other writers-new and aspiring!

#### Young @ Hearts Bingo (Senior Programs):

Fridays @1:00pm in the Meeting Room. Open to Seniors ages 60 and up only.



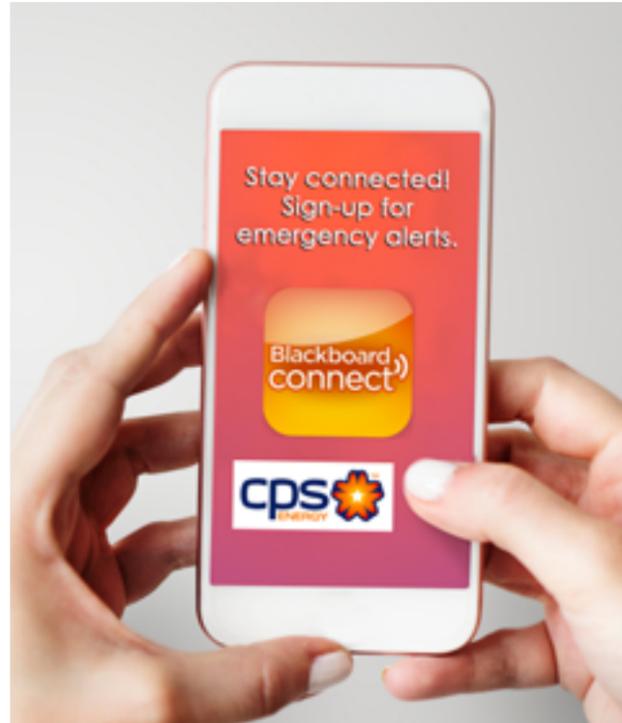
GET NOTIFIED. STAY INFORMED.

# BLACKBOARD CONNECT

With today's technology, alerts and emergency information can be distributed as easy as sending an email, text message or a phone call to a cell phone or even landline. The City of Universal City encourages all residents to register for two alert systems that can do just that.

### Blackboard Connect: A notification system for Universal City residents

Get notified of emergencies affecting Universal City or your neighborhood. Residents can sign up for Blackboard Connect free of charge through the City website at [www.UCTX.Gov/Connect](http://www.UCTX.Gov/Connect). Users can choose how to receive notifications including text, landline, cellphone, or email. All information is kept confidential.



**If you do not have access to a computer, complete the form below and submit it at the utility window or deposit in the utility drop box at City Hall.**

If you prefer to mail, please send this form to City of Universal City, ATTN: Blackboard Connect, 2150 Universal City Blvd, Universal City TX 78148.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Preferred Method of Contact  
(choose one or two methods)

\_\_\_ Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Cellphone Call: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Text Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### CPS ENERGY CONTACT UPDATE

CPS Energy wants to make sure you have your contact information updated in case they need to reach you during an emergency. There are two main ways to update your emergency contact information in your account so CPS Energy can reach you, if needed:

Login to Manage My Account and change your information

Call CPS Energy's friendly Energy Advisors: If you'd prefer to speak with someone over the phone, CPS Energy's friendly Energy Advisors are available to speak to you at (210)-353-2222. Simply call and let them know you'd like to update your emergency contact information.

When you update your emergency contact information in your account, it allows CPS Energy to send messages to a designated phone number in the event they need to notify you of emergency events, such as weather advisories, Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) mandates, gas leaks and more. As your hometown utility, they're taking steps to improve, and being prepared to communicate with you in an emergency is one of them.

# RESIDENTIAL SEWER AVERAGING

Residential sewer charges are based on the average water consumption over three billing periods beginning mid-November through mid-March. These months typically represent the lowest consumption months of the year and give residents the best opportunity for the lowest possible monthly sewer fee.

Residents can find their sewer averaging months using the chart below or use the interactive map online.

### SEWER AVERAGING CHART:

The first 2 digits of your water billing account number is your route number.

### INTERACTIVE MAP:

Visit [www.UCTX.gov/seweravg](http://www.UCTX.gov/seweravg) and click on the button to access the Sewer Averaging Map. Enter the address in the bar at the top of the screen. The map shows single-family water account information for Universal City's annual winter sewer averaging; commercial and multi-family apartments should contact the utility billing department for service or billing questions.

During the sewer averaging months, residents are encouraged to reduce water usage to result in the lowest sewer rate possible.

- Keep lawn and landscape watering to a minimum
- Repair any water leaks indoors and outdoors as soon as possible
- Install high efficiency toilets and low-flow shower heads

In the event a resident has a water leak during the averaging months, they can appeal the newly assessed fees by submitting a written request along with any plumbing repair receipts to the Water Billing Department. A request must be received as soon as repairs are made or immediately after the first newly assessed fee which will reflect on the April or May 2024 water utility bill.

**Please contact Universal City Water Billing with any questions, 210-619-0713.**

Refer to the chart to find your winter averaging schedule. The first two digits of your account number is your route number. Please contact Universal City Utilities with any questions, 210.659.0333 option 8.

Area and Reading Routing #	Dates for Reading
Routes 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06 Aviation/Universal City Subdivision, Cibolo Bluffs, Golden Pond, Parkview Estates, Red Horse Ridge	November 16 - February 16
Routes 07, 08, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 Golden Oaks, Heritage Hills, Park Olympia, Oro De Coronado, Red Horse Manor, Rose Garden, Sunrise Canyon, Orchard Park	November 23 - February 23
Routes 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18 Copano Ridge, Cimarron/Live Oak Village, Coronado, Emelia, Meadow Oaks, Springwood, Remington	December 2 - March 2
Routes 19, 20, 21 Forum Creek, Olympia	December 9 - March 9

Join our community to conserve energy and save money when the demand for energy is highest. Follow everyday energy conservation tips on Green Days. If more conservation is needed during peak energy demand, we will declare a Yellow Day. Orange or Red Alerts will be issued if ERCOT, the statewide grid manager, declares grid reliability is at risk. Check our current color-coded energy conservation status at [cpsenergy.com](https://cpsenergy.com).



**GREEN DAY**  
Everyday Conservation

- ▶ Set thermostat to 78° in summer, 68° in winter
- ▶ Use fans to feel 4-6 degrees cooler
- ▶ Run ceiling fans in occupied rooms, counterclockwise in summer & clockwise in winter
- ▶ Close shades & blinds; turn off unnecessary lights
- ▶ Unplug electronics when not in use
- ▶ Cook on a grill & line-dry clothes when possible

**YELLOW DAY**  
Peak Energy Demand

- ▶ Continue everyday conservation measures
- ▶ Check [cpsenergy.com](https://cpsenergy.com) & our social media for times of day when more conservation is needed
- ▶ Charge Electric Vehicles (EV) at night, after 10 PM
- ▶ Adjust thermostats further to minimize HVAC use, if health permits
- ▶ Avoid using large appliances like your oven, washer, dryer, & dishwasher



**ORANGE ALERT**  
Energy Grid Reliability Risk

- ▶ Limit power usage
- ▶ Prepare for possible loss of power
- ▶ Prepare to implement your household plan for power emergencies
- ▶ Be ready to initiate your plan for alternative operation of medical devices, if needed
- ▶ Turn off pool pumps
- ▶ Avoid charging EV, or charge overnight



**RED ALERT**  
Controlled Outages in Progress

- ▶ Implement emergency preparedness measures, including plans for alternative operation of medical devices
- ▶ Turn off and unplug appliances, turn off HVAC and all lights but one
- ▶ Leave one light on to know when power is restored, then power equipment on one device at a time
- ▶ Keep refrigerator doors closed to extend the life of perishable food
- ▶ Monitor news sources for updates

**BE PREPARED**

Don't wait for an emergency or power outage, make a family emergency plan now. If you have medical equipment that requires electricity or medicines that need refrigeration, check with your doctor when making your plan. Assemble a power outage emergency kit. Follow us on Facebook, Nextdoor, Twitter, and our Newsroom for updates during outages and emergencies. Visit [cpsenergy.com/prepare](https://cpsenergy.com/prepare).

**Need assistance with your energy bill? We're here to help!**  
Visit [cpsenergy.com/assistance](https://cpsenergy.com/assistance) or call Customer Service at 210-353-2222.

10.6.23

Únase a nuestra comunidad para conservar energía y ahorrar dinero cuando la demanda de energía sea mayor. Siga los consejos diarios de conservación de energía en Días Verdes. Si una conservación adicional es necesaria durante la demanda máxima de energía, declararemos un Día Amarillo. Se emitirán Alertas Naranjas o Rojas si ERCOT, el administrador de la red estatal, declara que la fiabilidad de la red está en riesgo. Consulte nuestro estado actual de conservación de energía codificado por colores en [cpsenergy.com](https://cpsenergy.com).



**DÍA VERDE**  
Conservación Diaria

- ▶ Ajuste el termostato a 78° en verano y 68° en invierno
- ▶ Use ventiladores para sentirse 4-6 grados más fríos
- ▶ Haga funcionar los ventiladores de techo en el sentido contrario a las agujas del reloj en verano y en el sentido de las agujas del reloj en invierno
- ▶ Cierre cortinas y persianas; apague las luces innecesarias
- ▶ Desenchufe los aparatos electrónicos cuando no estén en uso
- ▶ Cocine en una parrilla y seque la ropa cuando sea posible

**DÍA AMARILLO**  
Demanda Máxima de Energía

- ▶ Continuar con las medidas de conservación diarias
- ▶ Visite [cpsenergy.com](https://cpsenergy.com) y nuestro medio social para horas cuando se necesite más conservación
- ▶ Cargar vehículos eléctricos por la noche, después de las 10 de la noche
- ▶ Ajuste los termostatos a un más para minimizar el uso de aire acondicionado y calefacción, si la salud lo permite
- ▶ Evite usar electrodomésticos grandes como su horno, lavadora, secadora y lavavajillas



**ALERTA NARANJA**  
Riesgo en la Fiabilidad de la Red de Energía

- ▶ Limite el uso de energía
- ▶ Prepárese para una posible pérdida de energía
- ▶ Prepárese para implementar su plan domestico para emergencias eléctricas
- ▶ Estar listo para iniciar un plan para la operación alternativa de dispositivos médicos, si es necesario
- ▶ Apagar las bombas de la piscina
- ▶ Evite cargar vehículos eléctricos, o cargue durante la noche



**ALERTA ROJA**  
Interrupciones Controladas en Curso

- ▶ Implemente medidas de preparación para emergencias
- ▶ Apague todos los electrodomésticos y luces durante los cortes de energía
- ▶ Prenda una luz por mientras hasta cuando se restaure y luego prenda un equipo a la vez
- ▶ Mantenga el refrigerador cerrado para prolongar la vida útil de los alimentos perecederos
- ▶ Monitorear fuentes de noticias para actualizaciones

**ESTÉ PREPARADO**

No espere una emergencia o interrupción de energía, realice un plan de emergencia familiar ahora. Si tiene equipos médicos que requieren electricidad o medicamentos que necesitan refrigeración, consulte con su médico al momento de realizar su plan. Prepare un kit de emergencia para interrupciones de energía. Síguenos en Facebook, Nextdoor, Twitter y nuestra Sala de Prensa para obtener actualizaciones durante interrupciones y emergencias. Visite [cpsenergy.com/prepare](https://cpsenergy.com/prepare).

**¿Necesita ayuda con su factura de energía? ¡Estamos aquí para ayudarlo!**  
Visite [cpsenergy.com/asistencia](https://cpsenergy.com/asistencia) o llame al Centro de Servicio al Cliente al 210-353-2222.

10.6.23

**FROZEN PIPE SURVIVAL GUIDE:**

## **PREVENTING AND THAWING WINTER WOES**

As winter temperatures approach, it is important to be prepared for unexpected drops and the risk of frozen pipes. But worry not! With a touch of preparation and a dash of ingenuity, you can fortify your home against the winter chill. Here are some practical and proven strategies to keep your pipes flowing smoothly, safeguarding your home from the icy clutches of the season.

### **INSULATE PIPES**

Insulate exposed pipes in unheated areas such as basements, attics, and crawl spaces. This helps maintain higher temperatures around the pipes, preventing freezing.

### **SEAL DRAFTS**

Seal any gaps or cracks near pipes that allow cold air to enter your home. Use caulk or insulation to seal these areas.

### **OPEN CABINET DOORS**

During extremely cold weather, keep cabinet doors open to allow warm air to circulate around pipes under sinks.

### **LET FAUCETS DRIP**

When temperatures are extremely low, allow faucets connected to vulnerable pipes to drip slightly. The movement of water can prevent freezing.

### **DISCONNECT AND DRAIN OUTDOOR HOSES**

Before winter sets in, disconnect and drain water from outdoor hoses. Close the inside valve supplying these outdoor faucets and keep them open to allow any remaining water to drain out.

### **TEMPORARY HEATING SOURCES**

In extremely cold weather, consider using space heaters or heating lamps in areas with exposed or vulnerable pipes.

### **MONITOR WEATHER ALERTS**

Stay aware of weather forecasts and take precautions when temperatures are expected to drop significantly.

### **CUSTOMER HAND VALVE**

Before you have a leak, locate the customer hand valve that enables residents to shut off the water to a home. Never shut off water at the City Water Meter.

By implementing these preventive measures, you can significantly reduce the risk of pipes freezing during cold weather. If you suspect a frozen pipe, start by checking all the faucets in your home. Look for reduced or no water flow, as this can indicate the location of the frozen section. Typically, the frozen portion of the pipe lies between the affected faucet and the water source.

To begin addressing the issue, keep the affected faucets open. Running water, even at a trickle, through the pipe can help thaw the ice. Next, focus on applying gentle heat to the frozen section. This can be done using various safe methods such as a hairdryer, a heat lamp, electric heating pads, or by wrapping towels soaked in hot water around the pipe. Begin heating from the faucet end and work your way towards the frozen area.



**It's crucial to avoid using open flames like torches or propane heaters, as they can damage pipes and pose a significant fire hazard. Instead, focus on raising the indoor temperature to assist in the thawing process.**

If the frozen pipe is behind a cabinet, leaving the cabinet doors open can allow warm air to circulate around the pipes, aiding in the thawing process. As the pipe begins to thaw, you might notice water flow returning to the affected faucets.

Once the pipe has thawed, check for any leaks or signs of damage. If you find any, turn off the water supply immediately using the customer hand valve and seek assistance from a professional plumber.

Remember, while these steps can help address a frozen pipe, if you're unable to locate the frozen area, the pipe bursts, or you're uncomfortable dealing with the situation, it's best to contact a qualified plumber for assistance.

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- Probate & Trust Administration
- Business Formation
- Real Estate Drafting
- Probate, Business & Real Estate Litigation



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