

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION NEWSLETTER



**September 2023**

## City of Taylor Donation Program

Residents can now make donations to the City of Taylor online. This convenient online payments page includes options to donate to:

- The Taylor Animal Shelter
- City of Taylor Public Library
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Arts
- Directly to the Fred Kerley Mural



Donations may be used by the City for any purpose within the category selected.

[Click Here to Make a Donation](#)

[<https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/taylor/tx/easypay>]



## City Manager Message

As we enter the month of September, we also mark the beginning of National Preparedness Month, a time when we all can reflect on the importance of being ready for any situation, particularly when it comes to unpredictable weather events.

I can assure you that at the City of Taylor we are committed to our disaster preparedness and response capabilities. We continuously work with our emergency services and City departments essential in emergencies to ensure a coordinated and effective response to weather-related challenges.

You can do your part as well. Following are some things you can do right now to prepare yourself, yourself, and your family for future emergencies:

1. **Create a Family Emergency Plan:** Sit down with your loved ones and discuss what you will do in case of a weather-related emergency. Outline escape routes, designate meeting points, and ensure everyone knows who to contact.
2. **Assemble an Emergency Kit:** Put together a kit with essential supplies such as non-perishable food, water, medications, flashlights, batteries, a first aid kit, and important documents. Make sure it's easily accessible and kept up to date.
3. **Stay Informed:** Stay tuned to local news, weather forecasts, and alerts from reliable sources. Sign up for emergency notifications from the City and Warn Central Texas if you haven't already. Residents can sign up on our website here [www.taylortx.gov/938/Alerts](http://www.taylortx.gov/938/Alerts)
4. **Protect Your Property:** Take steps to safeguard your property from potential damage. Trim trees, clear gutters, reinforce doors and windows, and secure loose items in your yard.
5. **Help Support Vulnerable Neighbors:** Check on elderly neighbors, individuals with disabilities, and those who might need extra assistance during emergencies. Offer a helping hand and make sure they are included in your community's preparedness efforts.
6. **Stay Calm and Listen to the Experts:** During a weather emergency, it's important to remain calm and follow the guidance of local authorities. If advised to stay indoors or evacuate, do so promptly and safely.

I encourage everyone to also visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) [http://www.ready.gov] for more helpful information on how to stay prepared for any weather emergency. Whether it's a severe storm, flooding, extreme heat, or any other natural disaster, having a plan in place can make all the difference for you and your family.

Sincerely,

**Brian LaBorde**  
*City Manager*

## Brazos River Authority Implements Stage 2 Drought Warning

The Brazos River Authority (BRA) has notified the City of Taylor that it is implementing a Stage 2 Drought Warning for the East Williamson County Regional Water System (EWCWRS) at Lake Granger. This includes Taylor, Jonah Water SUD, and Lone Star Regional Water Authority. BRA is requiring consumers to reduce water usage by 10% effective immediately.



During Stage 2 in accordance with the City of Taylor's Drought Contingency Plan, outdoor water irrigation use will be restricted except for the following time periods:

1. Between the hours of midnight and 10 a.m., and between 8 p.m. and midnight on the following designated watering days:
  1. Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a street address ending in an even number (0,2,4,6, or 8)
  2. Saturdays and Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number (1,3,5,7, or 9)
2. Irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at any time if it is by a hand-held hose, a faucet-filled bucket or watering can of five gallons or less, or a drip irrigation system.

Washing vehicles is prohibited except on designated watering days above. Washing shall be done with a hand-held bucket or hand-held hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. All restaurants are also prohibited from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron.

The following uses are considered non-essential and are prohibited:

1. Wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas.
2. Use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection.
3. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street.
4. Failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).

The City will continue to release any updated information as it becomes available on the City's website and social media. For further details on the City's Drought Contingency Plan, visit [www.taylortx.gov](http://www.taylortx.gov) [<http://www.taylortx.gov>].



## August Sales Tax Numbers

On the third Tuesday of every month, the City of Taylor releases a report detailing the cumulative and actual numbers from the last four months of the year and comparing them to the three prior years. The actual and cumulative sales tax numbers for the month of August have been released and posted to the City's website. The sales and use tax revenue reported for the City in August 2023 was \$ 2,438,379, an increase of more than \$1.7 million (246.6%) over the same time last year. The cumulative sales and use tax revenue through August 2023 is \$21,137,267, an increase of over \$14.6 million (227.3%) over the same period in 2021-22.

Increased sales tax revenue is a positive for Taylor residents for several reasons. A majority of the revenue in the City's General Fund is made up of ad valorem, or property tax that is charged to residents, and sales and use tax that is charged to anyone who purchases goods and services in the City. When sales and use tax revenues are up, it can help lower the property tax rate. Additionally, the increase in sales tax revenue helped the City fund limb and debris cleanup efforts due to Winter Storm Mara.

Between the increased construction use taxes from the Samsung Semiconductor construction project, and an influx of visitors and businesses in our City, the City has seen an upward trend in sales and use tax numbers that we expect will continue in the coming years.

The next report will be released on Tuesday, September 19. For more information and to view the report, visit Finance section of the City's website at [www.taylortx.gov](http://www.taylortx.gov) [<http://www.taylortx.gov>].

# Join Us for the 10th Annual Main Street Car Show October 28



Join us in Historic Downtown Taylor for the biggest car show in Central Texas! This year will be our 10th Annual Taylor Main Street Car Show, and it's a great family-friendly event. In addition to cars, we'll have live music, shopping, food trailers and more.

## Car Registration

Registration is now open for 2023 Main Street Car Show participants. The Car Show will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2023. The show itself is open from 10 am until 4 pm but we will open the gates to start parking vehicles at 7 AM.

The tickets this year will be \$17.00 plus \$2.50 charged by Eventbrite for a total cost of \$19.50 per vehicle through Eventbrite or \$20 for mail in (cash/check) for early registration and \$25.00 for registration on the day of the show.

[Click here for more information about registration.](http://www.taylortx.gov/959/Main-Street-Car-Show)  
[\[http://www.taylortx.gov/959/Main-Street-Car-Show\]](http://www.taylortx.gov/959/Main-Street-Car-Show)

## Vendor Registration

We are now accepting vendors for the upcoming Main Street Car Show on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 10 AM to 4 PM. A link to the online application is below; please return your completed application and fee at your earliest convenience to be included in this year's event.

- [2023 MSCS Vendor Application](#)

The deadline for vendor applications is October 21, 2023. However, you are strongly urged to secure your space early as we limit the number of vendors selling similar products at the Main Street Car Show. Booths are priced by size: a 10' x 10' booth is \$100.00; a 10' x 20' booth is \$200.00 and a 10' x 30' booth is \$300.00. All vendors will need to provide their own tents (with 30# weights for each leg), tables and chairs.

## Questions

If you have questions, please contact Special Events Coordinator Ruby Fisher at 512-309-6185 or by email at [ruby.fisher@taylortx.gov](mailto:ruby.fisher@taylortx.gov)  
[\[mailto:ruby.fisher@taylortx.gov\]](mailto:ruby.fisher@taylortx.gov).



Double-click to  
insert an image

(scaled to a maximum of  
170px wide x 170px tall)



Double-click to  
insert an image

(scaled to a maximum of  
170px wide x 170px tall)

## Four HOME Program Homes Completed for 2023

Congratulations to our 2023 HOME Program homeowners! On August 22, Mayor Brandt Rydell, Councilmember Robert Garcia, Councilmember Mitch Drummond and City staff turned over the keys to four homes to their new owners.

The City currently participates in the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (HRA) of the HOME program which provides funding for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of single-family homes for eligible applicants. For more information on the HOME Program, visit [www.taylortx.gov/897/Administration](http://www.taylortx.gov/897/Administration) [//www.taylortx.gov/897/Administration].



## Utility Billing Online Portal With AutoPay

Did you know all utility billing customers have access to an online portal? The portal allows customers to:

- Manage credit or debit card information
- Schedule one-time current or future payments
- Set up AutoPay to schedule automatic drafts
- Receive email notifications and reminders
- Access payment history and past statements
- View historical usage

Check it out and set up autopay today!

[www.municipalonlinepayments.com/taylortx](http://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/taylortx)

[<https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/taylortx>] and never miss a payment again!

## Upcoming Events Calendar

To stay up to date on city events, be sure to follow us on *Facebook*

[<https://www.facebook.com/cityoftaylortexas/>] and *Twitter*

[[https://twitter.com/CityOfTaylor?](https://twitter.com/CityOfTaylor?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

[ref\\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/CityOfTaylor?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)], and check the Community Calendar on the City's website.

## September



- **Monday, September 4** | *noon-8 PM* | **Pool Closes** - The Doris Roznovak Aquatic center will be open for last day of pool operations on Labor Day. Thanks for a great season!
- **Monday, September 11** | *7 PM* | **Patriot Day Memorial March and Program** - Join the Taylor Fire Department for their annual Patriot Day Memorial March and Program. Emergency responders, military personnel and first responder vehicles will march down Main Street through downtown Taylor and will end at Heritage Square with a memorial program to follow.
- **September 11-14** | **Honor Guard Academy** - The Taylor Honor Guard academy teaches firefighters the fundamental elements of honor guard duties. The class is held each year in Taylor, Texas and is sponsored by the Taylor Fire Department and the Taylor Professional Firefighters Association. It is recognized by the Texas Line of Duty Death Task Force and TEEX. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Saturday, September 16** | *8 AM* | **KidFish** - The City of Taylor Parks and Recreation Department will hold KidFish on Saturday, Sept. 16, at Bull Branch Park. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and lures are in the water at 9 a.m.
- **Thursday, September 21** | *7 PM* | **Music on Main** - Join the Public Arts Advisory Board for the September Music on Main featuring Jake Waylon with Kelley McRae. Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy the show at Heritage Square Park! This a FREE family friendly event.

## October

- **Tuesday, October 3** | *6-9 PM* | **National Night Out** - Join the Taylor Police Department for this year's National Night out. Block party registration is now open. To register or for more information visit [www.taylortx.gov/police](http://www.taylortx.gov/police).
- **Saturday, October 28** | *10 AM - 4 PM* | **Main Street Car Show** - Join us in Historic Downtown Taylor for the biggest car show in Central Texas! We will be celebrating 10th Annual Taylor Main Street Car Show! In addition to cars, we'll have live music, shopping, food trailers and more! This exciting event has expanded to multiple streets over the years and now brings in 10,000 attendees annually.
- **Tuesday, October 31** | *6-8 PM* | **Spooktacular Scare on the Square** - Come all you ghosts and ghouls to the annual Spooktacular Scare on the Square in Heritage Square Park. There will be vendors, plenty of candy and a costume contest by the Taylor Public Library.

## Taylor Public Library

The [Taylor Public Library](http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us/25/Library)

[<http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us/25/Library>] is located at 801 Vance St. in Taylor.



### CURRENT OPERATING HOURS:

Monday/Wednesday: 9 AM - 6 PM

Tuesday/Thursday: 9 AM - 8 PM

Friday: noon - 6 PM

Saturday: 11 AM - 4 PM

Sunday: closed

### September Library Schedule:

- **Saturday, Sept. 2** - Monday, Sept. 4 - Closed for Labor Day
- **Saturday, Sept. 9** | *1:30 PM* | **Sewing Saturday** - Bring your own supplies

- **Wednesday, Sept. 13** | 10:30 AM | **Preschool Story Time** - Story time starts up again. Join us for a Teddy Bear Clinic with Baylor Scott & White. Please bring your own favorite stuffed friend.
- **Wednesday, Sept. 20** | 10:30 AM | **Preschool Story Time**
- **Wednesday, Sept. 27** | 10:30 AM | **Preschool Story Time**
- **Every Tuesday** | 9 AM - noon | **Hooks and Needles** - Bring your own project and supplies. Whether you're just beginning or a seasoned veteran, we're able to help all levels of crochet and knitting and a little conversation.



**ADULT FITNESS**  
**Parks & Rec**  
**Fall Schedule**

**MON**  
**9:00 AM**  
 Croquet  
**6:00 PM**  
 Zumba

**TUE**  
**6:30 PM**  
 Yoga or Track

**WED**  
**6:00 PM**  
 Drum Fit

**THU**  
**2:00 PM**  
 Tai Chi  
**6:30 PM**  
 Pilates or Track

**FRI**  
**11:00 AM**  
 Senior Fit

**SAT**  
**10:00 AM**  
 Zumba

**Parks & Rec: 1412 Davis St.**  
**Free Classes: 9/5 - 9/16**  
**\$5 Per Class: Starting 9/18**

The poster features a QR code and several photos of people participating in various fitness activities like croquet, zumba, and yoga.

Sign up for free classes here: <https://tinyurl.com/4f3fa6vt>

[[https://tinyurl.com/4f3fa6vt?](https://tinyurl.com/4f3fa6vt?fbclid=IwAR1iq7IDldmZYxWpeDrl34GxR5q_MKpdEKCKIEyg8mmcnt5tpcR-6PHJP5M)

[fbclid=IwAR1iq7IDldmZYxWpeDrl34GxR5q\\_MKpdEKCKIEyg8mmcnt5tpcR-6PHJP5M\]](https://tinyurl.com/4f3fa6vt?fbclid=IwAR1iq7IDldmZYxWpeDrl34GxR5q_MKpdEKCKIEyg8mmcnt5tpcR-6PHJP5M)

## City Council Meetings

Council meetings are held at 6 PM the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at City Hall, 400 Porter Street.(unless otherwise noted)

Council will meet:

- September 14, 28
- October 12, 26

Live streaming of Council meetings and taped recordings are available [on our website](#).

## Holiday Closures

City offices will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday, September 4 (Labor Day)

