

CITY INSIGHT

www.KilleenTexas.gov

July 2024

(254) 501-7600

A Message from Mayor Debbie Nash-King



As I reflect on the challenges we faced in May, I am deeply grateful for the unity and resilience shown by our community. The response to the two tornadoes and severe storm damage was nothing short of remarkable. I want to personally thank our Killeen First Responders who selflessly assisted our neighboring communities of Temple and Morgan's Point Resort.

The Killeen Fire Department, Killeen Police Department, Killeen Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (OHSEM) and Killeen Department of Public Works sent several units, vehicles and staff members to help with debris removal, traffic control, search efforts and resource coordination.

The National Weather Service confirmed two tornadoes touched down in the Temple area on May 22 and over 55,000 people lost power across Central Texas. In Killeen, our Public Works teams worked overtime into the late hours and weekends to cut down and clear debris from the high winds.

During EMS Week, National Police Week and Public Works Week, we had the opportunity to honor our public servants. Moments like these remind us of their unwavering dedication, especially in times of crisis. Our Killeen Animal Services division even partially shut down to assist area partners affected by the severe weather. Their commitment is truly inspiring.

The next time you see any of these City employees, I hope that you can show your appreciation. We're heading into budget discussions for the fiscal year 2025 timeframe and I'm always supportive of ensuring our civil service employees have the resources they need. Citizens can participate in our City Council meetings and budget public hearings from July – September 10, when the budget is scheduled to be adopted.

The public hearing is July 23, and the proposed budget is on our website at www.KilleenTexas.gov/Budget. Our Council meetings and workshops are each Tuesday at Killeen's City Hall (101 North College Street) at 5p.m. Citizens can also find/view information about the meetings and budget at www.KilleenTexas.gov/CouncilMeetings.

Governor Greg Abbott visits Killeen for Memorial Day

Gov. Greg Abbott became the first sitting governor to visit a State Veterans Cemetery on Memorial Day when he came to Killeen and participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery. Mayor Debbie Nash-King greeted the governor upon his arrival and also gave remarks during the ceremony.



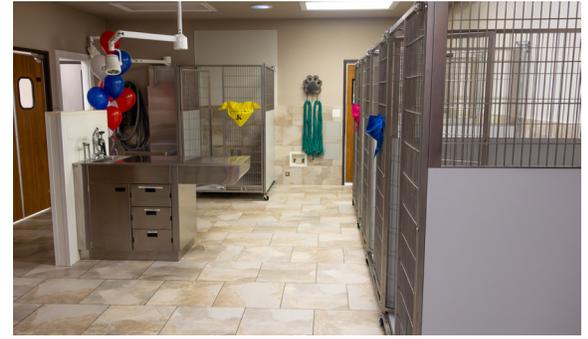
New Animal Center

We held a grand opening for our new Animal Center on May 2. The new Center, (3518 East Rancier Avenue) will now operate as our adoption facility.

The Killeen Animal Shelter (3118 Commerce Drive) will be used for intake, housing stray animals, pet microchipping, and issuing

permits. And our Fort Cavazos Animal Shelter (4902 Engineer Drive, Fort Cavazos) is used for animal intake and stray animal housing of animals on Fort Cavazos.

For additional information, please contact Killeen Animal Services at (254) 526-4455 or visit www.killeentexas.gov/animals.



KFD Groundbreaking



On May 8, the city held a groundbreaking ceremony for the future Fire Station 4 and Emergency Operations Center at 9200 Trimmier Road. The new facility will come fully equipped with a lobby, dorm, kitchen, break room, fitness center, office spaces, apparatus bays, training classrooms, conference room, and an emergency operations center.

Fire Chief Jim Kubinski said the new facility is important in helping the fire department hit its target response time in the area.

For more information about the facility and to watch the groundbreaking ceremony, visit www.KilleenTexas.gov/fire.

Lending a helping hand



On Wednesday, May 22, a severe weather system moved through Bell County, and tornadoes hit the Temple area. Killeen crews were quickly onsite to assist. Killeen Police assisted with traffic control and door-to-door searches in Temple and used drones for damage assessments in Morgan's Point Resort. Our fire department and emergency management provided incident command, debris removal, ambulances, and emergency vehicles across the area. Crews from our Public Works Department cleared trees and removed debris. Additionally, our Animal Services staff assisted area shelters.

ENGINEERING DIVISION

PREVENT >

STOP POLLUTION

Take these simple steps to help prevent water / runoff pollution:

- **Don't** blow grass clippings into the street to be washed into an inlet.
- **Do** sweep driveways, sidewalks and gutters to keep them debris-free.
- **Don't** overwater lawn.
- **Do** follow directions when using fertilizers and pesticides; consider organic alternatives.
- **Don't** dispose of mop water in the street or throw, deposit, drop, sweep, or place parking lots.
- **Don't** pour cooking oil storm drains.
- **Do** recycle used oil. Use drip pan at home to catch any motor oil that may spill. Killeen Recycling Center accepts used cooking and motor oil.
- **Don't** change oil in streets or driveways to avoid spills into drainage system.
- **Do** fix auto leaks quickly and dispose of used motor oil properly.
- **Do** clean up pet waste.
- **Do** dispose of hazardous materials properly: clean up spills immediately to prevent contact with storm water.

KNOW >

WHAT IS STORMWATER

Stormwater is rainfall and snow melt that runs across the ground picking up pollutants as it goes. What kind of pollutants could it pickup you ask?

Pollutants can be a variety of things. Most might consider oil a pollutant but not grass clippings. Both impact our waterways. A quart of oil can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water and grass clipping can cause the oxygen of a waterway to be depleted, harming aquatic life and habitats.

The impaired waters in Texas can be attributed to trash, bacteria from animals, depressed dissolved oxygen (caused by heating the water), pH of water (caused by chemicals, minerals, soils). These are just a few of the impairments in our creek, rivers and lakes.

FOLLOW >

ILLEGAL DUMPING

Chapter 18

No person shall throw, deposit, drop, sweep, or place any litter or junk into or on any private or public property, right-of-way, street, sidewalk, or other place. All litter shall be disposed of in an approved receptacle.

However, if you have larger items check with Solid Waste to find out when the next bulk pickup will be. Some items can be taken over to the recycling center, other items, such as paint, chemicals, tires, pesticides and fertilizers could be taken to the next Household Hazardous Waste Day, which is typically held in May each year.

INFO >

Visit the City's Stormwater Management Program web page

www.KilleenTexas.gov/Stormwater or click on the QR Code



Division de Ingeniería

PREVENGA>

Detenga la Contaminación

Siga estos sencillos pasos para ayudar a prevenir la contaminación por esorrentía:

- **No** arroje los recortes de césped para que no entren al sistema de aguas pluviales.
- **Mantenga** las entradas de vehículos, las aceras y las canaletas limpias y libres de escombros.
- **No** riegue el césped en exceso
- **Siga** las instrucciones al utilizar fertilizantes y pesticidas; Considere alternativas orgánicas.
- **No** deseche el aceite usado o aguas de limpieza en la calle ni en desagües pluviales.
- **Recicle** El Centro de Reciclaje de Killeen acepta aceite usado de cocinar y de motor. Utilice una bandeja de goteo en casa para atrapar cualquier aceite de motor que pueda derramarse.
- **No** cambie el aceite de su auto en las calles o entradas para evitar derrames en el sistema de drenaje.
- **Repare** fugas para evitar derrames de aceite de motor
- **Deseche** los materiales peligrosos correctamente: limpie los derrames inmediatamente para evitar el contacto con las aguas pluviales.
- **Limpie** los desechos de su mascota.

SEPA QUE>

¿QUÉ SON LAS AGUAS PLUVIALES?

Las aguas pluviales son la lluvia y el derretimiento de la nieve que corre por el suelo recogiendo contaminantes a su paso. ¿Qué tipo de contaminantes podría recoger?

Los contaminantes pueden ser una variedad de cosas. La mayoría podría considerar que el petróleo es un contaminante, pero no los recortes de césped. Ambos impactan nuestros cuerpos de agua. Un litro de petróleo puede contaminar 250,000 galones de agua y el corte de césped puede hacer que se agote el oxígeno en nuestros rios y lagos, dañando la vida acuática y los hábitats.

La contaminación de las aguas en Texas se puede atribuir a la basura, las bacterias de los animales, la depresión del oxigenos disuelto (causada por el calentamiento del agua), y el pH del agua (causado por productos químicos, minerales, suelos). Estos son solo algunos de los contaminantes en nuestros arroyos, ríos y lagos.

VERTIDOS ILEGALES

Capítulo 18

Ninguna persona podrá tirar, depositar, dejar caer, barrer o colocar basura o basura en o sobre cualquier propiedad privada o pública, derecho de paso, calle, acera u otro lugar. Toda la basura se desechará en un recipiente aprobado.

Sin embargo, si necesita deshacerse de algún residuo, consulte con Residuos Sólidos para averiguar cuándo será la próxima recolección a granel. Algunos artículos se pueden llevar al centro de reciclaje, otros artículos, como pintura, productos químicos, neumáticos, pesticidas, fertilizantes, se pueden llevar al siguiente sitio web peligroso para el hogar.