

City Reminds Residents to “Cease the Grease”

Did you know? Fats, oils and grease can cause costly problems for your home’s plumbing system and for the city’s sanitary sewer system. When fats, oils and grease are poured down kitchen sinks, they can begin to build up in drain pipes and sewer pipes and cause restrictions in flow. These restrictions can lead to unwanted back-ups of sewage resulting in property damage and costly repairs. All residents are reminded to do their part to keep sewer pipes free of fats, oils and grease. Please follow these simple DOs and DON’Ts to cease the grease:

- **DO** recycle used cooking oil or properly dispose of it in the garbage. For small amounts, you can achieve this by pouring over newspaper or paper towels and place in garbage. For larger amounts, use clay cat litter. Just mix the litter, a little at a time, into the oil. When all the oil has been absorbed, pour the cat litter into a trash bag and throw it away.
- **DO** compost food scraps or scrape them into the trash, not the sink.
- **DO** wipe pots, pans, and dishes with dry paper towels before rinsing or washing them.

- **DON’T** pour cooking oil, pan drippings, bacon grease, salad dressings, or sauces down the sink or toilet, or into street gutters or storm drains.
- **DON’T** put fatty, oily or greasy food down the garbage disposal.
- **DON’T** use cloth towels or rags to scrape plates or clean oily or greasy dishes. When you wash the towels, the grease will still end up in the sewer.
- **DON’T** run water over dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles to wash oil and grease down the drain.

Holiday Grease Recycling Program

The North Richland Hills Public Works Department will collect used cooking oils from your holiday feasts for recycling **November 28 through December 2** and **January 3 - 6**. Containers holding the discarded oils and grease must be made of plastic and have a screw top lid.

This program is intended for residents and excludes restaurants or commercial users. Please call 817-427-6457 to arrange a pick up or get more details.

Cooking Safety Tips from NRH Fire Dept.

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together, but that also means a greater risk for cooking related fires. Following a few simple tips from the NRH Fire Department will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

- The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking. Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don’t use the oven or stovetop.
- Keep anything that can catch fire – oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels – away from your stovetop.

- If you have a small (grease) cooking fire on the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled. For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.
- If you have any doubt about fighting a small cooking fire just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire. Call 9-1-1 from outside the home.
- The use of gas fueled turkey fryers is discouraged. Hot oil may splash or spill and cause serious injury or damage. Additionally, if the oil is heated above its cooking temperature, its vapors can ignite. If you decide to cook with a turkey fryer, please use extreme caution and follow all directions.

NRH Fire Department wishes you and your family happy and safe holidays. Find more safety information at www.nfpa.org/education.

Upcoming Events

Holiday Closings / Collection Schedule

With the exception of public safety services, City Hall and other city offices will be closed **November 24 and 25, 2016** for the Thanksgiving holiday, Monday, **December 26** for Christmas and Monday, **January 2** for the New Year holiday. Garbage and recycling will not be collected on Thanksgiving Day. Thursday's collections will be made on Friday and Friday's collections will shift to Saturday. Collection schedules will be unaffected by the Christmas holiday.

For holiday hours at other city facilities, please call or check their website. The City of North Richland Hills wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.

Annual Toy & Food Drive

North Richland Hills Santa Cops and the NRH Firefighter's Association are holding a toy and food drive to benefit those who are less fortunate in our community. Residents are encouraged to share in the holiday spirit by dropping off new, unwrapped toys and nonperishable food items to the Public Safety lobby at City Hall, 4301 City Point Drive, or any NRH Fire Station. Donations will be accepted from **Thanksgiving through December 20**. Donations will also be accepted at Night of Holiday Magic on Saturday, December 3 at NRH₂O Family Water Park. All toy and food donations will go towards helping families in need through the Community Enrichment Center, as well as other local community organizations.

Christmas Tree Decorating at Library

Children are invited to help trim the Christmas tree at the NRH Library on Wednesday, **November 30** and Thursday, **December 1** from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Polly's Room. Children of all ages will be able to create their own ornament and hang it on the tree. Please note that Santa will not be at the Library this year. The Library is located at 9015 Grand Ave. Please call the Children's Department at 817-427-6818 with any questions.

Blood Drive

Help others in our community by donating blood! Participants age 16 and older are welcome to stop by the library at 9015 Grand Ave. to give blood with Carter Blood Care from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. on Monday, **December 12**. Walk-ins are welcome and registration is available for those who would like to schedule a specific time by calling 817-427-6823.

Breakfast With Santa

Join us for breakfast with Santa at Iron Horse Golf Course on **Saturday, December 17**. Breakfast will be served at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Reservations are required. The price is \$10.95 for adults and \$6.95 for children under 12. Kids under 3 are free. Please bring your own camera for photos with Santa. Iron Horse Golf Course is located at 6200 Skylark Circle. Call 817-485-6666 to reserve your seat.

Christmas Lighting Contest

Keep NRH Beautiful annually recognizes residents for beautifully decorating the outside of their homes during the holiday season. Residents are encouraged to nominate neighbors by calling 817-427-6651 prior to 5 p.m. on **Friday, December 9**. Judging will take place on Sunday, December 11, so make sure your lights are on that evening. Nine winners will be recognized at the January City Council meeting.

Vibre Handbell Choir at Library

The final of four fall concerts at the NRH Library takes place **Monday, December 19** at 7:00 p.m. featuring the Vibre Handbell Choir. The group will perform a variety of holiday music and popular songs in the Library lobby. The concert is free and open to all ages; feel free to come and go. Please call 817-427-6814 for more information.

New Business Spotlight

Edge Tech Academy

8701 Bedford Eules Road, Suite 610
817-334-5700, www.edgetechacademy.com

Integer Health Resources

9001 Airport Freeway, Suite 830
817-849-9400, www.integerhealth.com

Texas Pain Physicians

8221 Mid Cities Blvd. #100, 214-666-8077
www.txpainphysicians.com

Acme Roof Systems

9128 Belshire Dr., 817-281-1150
www.acmeroofsystems.com

Veda Nails & Spa

8533 Davis Blvd., 817-581-3888

*Support local businesses.
Shop NRH first!*

The City of
NORTH RICHLAND HILLS presents

NIGHT of HOLIDAY MAGIC

- VISIT with SANTA
- SHOP the HOLIDAY MARKET
- HOLIDAY PHOTO SCENES
- LIVE STAGE ENTERTAINMENT
- MINI TRAIN RIDES
- FIREWORKS
- CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
and MUCH MORE!

On the grounds of

NRH₂O

Family Water Park
9001 Boulevard 26, NRH 76180

nrhtx.com/holidaymagic (817)427-6620

NRH

**SAT
DEC. 3**
4PM to 8PM



RUN RUN RUDOLPH

**FAMILY FUN 5K
RUN & WALK**

**3PM
SAT. DEC. 3**
Right before
Night of Holiday Magic!

**WEAR YOUR
FESTIVE HOLIDAY
COSTUME!**

STARTS/ENDS on the
grounds of NRH₂O
9001 Boulevard 26

SIGN UP TODAY at
nrhtx.com/RudolphRun
817-427-6615

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INSURANCE SOLUTIONS GROUP
...for homeowners, simple solutions

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NRH
PARKS & RECREATION