



Time for the 2020 Census

Every 10 years the United States is Constitutionally required to conduct the Census to count the population. The Census counts every person living in the U.S., both citizens and non-citizens. The Census form does NOT ask about citizenship status, and all information provided during the Census process is required by law to be kept confidential, even from other government agencies.

Each household will receive a letter in the mail in mid-March, notifying them that they can respond to the Census in one of three ways: online, by phone or by mail. Residents who have not responded online or by phone will receive a second letter in April, giving them the opportunity to return a completed Census form in a postage-paid envelope.

It's important that every person in the City be counted! Census information determines how many seats in the U.S. House of Representatives are assigned to each state. The Census also helps to determine the district borders for the U.S. Congress and Oklahoma State Legislature. Census information is also used by federal agencies when deciding how to spend more than \$675 billion through grants and other programs throughout the United States. In fact, each person in Broken Arrow could represent almost \$1700 in potential federal funding for projects and programs in the city.

Locally, the Census Bureau is hiring for temporary jobs such as Census Takers. Anyone interested can visit 2020census.gov/jobs. More information on the Census is available at BrokenArrowOK.gov/census.



BA achieves Class 1 ISO rating

The City of Broken Arrow is proud to announce that its Fire Department has received a Class 1 Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). ISO is an independent organization that evaluates fire-protection efforts in communities across the country.

An ISO Class 1 rating is the highest rating possible, and ISO's Public Protection Classification can play an important part in an insurer's decisions when underwriting property insurance.

Homeowners should contact their insurer about a possible minor reduction in their premium after the new rating takes effect April 1.

"Earning this distinction is a direct reflection of the hard work of our front line firefighters, the prevention division and our dispatchers, as well as the Utilities Department," said Fire Chief Jeremy Moore. "This ranks Broken Arrow Fire among the best of the best in fire service in the country. I want to thank the City Council, City staff and the

community as a whole for supporting us in providing outstanding customer service to Broken Arrow."

Broken Arrow joins about 350 communities nationwide with this highest classification.

"Having the Broken Arrow Fire Department earn a Class 1 rating is a tremendous boon for Broken Arrow," said Mayor Craig Thurmond. "This puts the community on an elite list of cities across the country that are prepared to provide the best fire service to their residents."

ISO collects information on communities and analyzes the data using its Fire Suppression Rating Schedule. This Fire Suppression Rating Schedule evaluates four primary categories of fire suppression – fire department, emergency communications, water supply, and community risk reduction. Fire services are ranked between 1 and 10.

BAFD scored 94.42 points out of a possible 100.

What to do about coyotes and other wildlife

The source of nuisance wildlife is the environment humans have created for them. To prevent attracting wildlife to your neighborhood:

1. Remove outdoor food sources. Pick up leftover dog and cat food and keep bird feeders out of reach.
2. Close off chimneys with a proper commercial cap. Repair soffits to and install metal vent covers to prevent access to attics.
3. Prune tree limbs at least 10 feet away from the roof.
4. Garbage cans should have tight-fitting lids to prevent access.
5. Install metal skirting around the bottom of a deck.

6. Provide shelter structures for fish in ornamental ponds and water gardens; cover the pond at night with metal screening.
7. Cover window wells with grates, bubbles or hardware cloth.
8. Seal holes around foundations to keep out rodents, insects and snakes. Bury 0.25-inch mesh 1-2 feet deep where animals might dig into crawl spaces.
9. Fence gardens and cover fruit trees and berry bushes with netting, or use an approved non-toxic repellent spray.

Wild animals are opportunistic and will take advantage of the easy food, water, and shelter. Eliminating attractants will encourage wildlife to forage elsewhere.

Farmers Market returns April 4

The Rose District Farmers Market returns for 2020 to the Rose District Pavilion, 418 S. Main St. The new season kicks off on Saturday, April 4, weather permitting.

Look for early crops such as spinach, kale, and leaf lettuces, along with bison, chicken, eggs, regular and gluten



free Amish bread and local honey.

Hours are 8 a.m.-noon every Saturday through October. Follow the Rose District Farmers Market on Facebook for the latest information.

Clear out your junk on April 25

Residents will have the opportunity to dispose of unwanted items at the City's annual Spring Clean-Up on Saturday, April 25 from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Waste Management Quarry Landfill, 13720 E. 46th St. North. This is easily accessible by traveling north on U.S. Highway 169 to the eastbound exit at 46th St. North.

The City has ensured Broken Arrow will be the only community hosting a free landfill day on April 25, which should help reduce wait times. Residents may dump free by presenting a driver's license with a Broken Arrow address or a recent utility bill. To view a list of eligible items, visit BrokenArrowOK.gov/FreeDump or contact the landfill at 918-439-7835.

Where to take recycling and electronic waste

The Metropolitan Environmental Trust (The M.e.t.) operates a recycling and e-waste center at 302 N. Elm Pl.

Items that can be recycled include: #1 & #2 plastic bottles, plastic bottle lids, glass bottles, newspaper, office paper, magazines, aluminum cans, motor oil (5 gallon limit), batteries (household & auto), cooking oil (5 gallon limit), eyeglasses, phone books, plastic bags, steel cans, scrap metal, antifreeze (5 gallon limit), cardboard and paperboard.

The following e-waste items can also be dropped off: cameras, computer batteries, computer towers, copiers/scanners, fax machines, keyboards/mouse, laptops, microwaves, phones, printers, power cords, small appliances, UPS systems and VCR/DVD players. For more information, visit www.metrecycle.com/broken-arrow.

How to dispose of household pollutants

Residents are able to dispose of hazardous household waste any time of the year at the City of Tulsa's Household Pollutant Collection Facility, 4502 S. Galveston Ave. in west Tulsa.

Hazardous household waste includes fluorescent and CFL bulbs, oil-based paints, vehicle fluids, aerosols, pool chemicals and more. A full list of what can and cannot be recycled at the facility can be found at BrokenArrowOK.gov/HazardousWaste.

BA residents will need to contact the M.e.t. at 918-584-0584 to schedule an appointment.

Join KBAB for 2020 Trash Bash

Free collection for certain items and paper shredding

The Keep Broken Arrow Beautiful (KBAB) Trash Bash will be held Saturday, April 25. This event will focus attention on a variety of cleanup activities throughout the City.

KBAB volunteers will set up an information site outside the Central Park Community Center, 1500 S. Main St., to distribute bags, vests and gloves supplied by Keep Oklahoma Beautiful and ODOT for volunteers to collect trash and recyclables.

Volunteers will clean various roadsides and public areas throughout the day, bag the refuse and recyclables and return them to the Central Park where they are collected with the help

of New Solutions, Green Country Trash, OSBI, BAPD and The M.e.t.

KBAB will also collect tires, plastic bags, batteries, prescription drugs and small caliber ammunition for FREE throughout the event at Central Park Community Center. E-waste, like old TV's and monitors, will also be accepted for a small fee and onsite shredding will be available for free.

All of this is made possible with assistance from our partners The Metropolitan Environmental Trust, ODOT, Keep America Beautiful, The City of Broken Arrow and volunteers. For more information, visit facebook.com/keepbrokenarrowbeautiful.

Holiday Trash Schedule

City offices will be closed on Friday, April 10, for Good Friday. There will be no trash service that day. Service will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

Trash service is unaffected for customers in the curbside recycling pilot areas.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- April 1 — Census Day 2020** Community Center, 1500 S. Main St.
- April 4 through October — Rose District Farmers Market** 8 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, Rose District Plaza, 418 S. Main St.
- April 7 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.
- April 9 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.
- April 10 — Good Friday** City offices closed. See related story for trash schedule.
- April 19 — Share the Road Motorcycle Safety Course** 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Events Complex, 21101 E. 101st St. Sign up at BrokenArrowOK.gov/ShareTheRoad.
- April 21 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.
- April 23 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.
- April 24 — Senior Resource Fair** 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Central Park
- April 25 — Trash Bash 2020** See related story.
- April 25 — Free Landfill Day** 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
- April 25 — Spring Clean** 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Ray Herral Nature Center, 7101 S. 3rd St.
- May 2— Modern Mom Market** 11 a.m.-7 p.m., BA Restore House, 924 S. Main St. Visit themodernmommarket.org for details.
- May 3 — Share the Road Motorcycle Safety Course** 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Events Complex, 21101 E. 101st St. Sign up at BrokenArrowOK.gov/ShareTheRoad.
- May 5 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.
- May 7-10 — Rooster Days** Central Park, 1500 S. Main St.
- May 14 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.