

Broken Arrow Focus newsletter - April 2021

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April 2021



Farmers Market returns April 3

The Rose District Farmers Market returns for 2021 to the Rose District Pavilion, 418 S. Main St. The new season kicks off on Saturday, April 3, 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.

Report winter storm damage

The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security requested residents impacted by the recent winter storm report property damages online at damage.ok.gov.

Through the online damage assessment survey, residents and business owners can report winter storm-specific impacts including:

- Flooding from broken pipes
- Power surges that caused damage to furnaces, electrical systems, or major appliances
- Number of days without water, gas, or electricity

- Number of days displaced by the winter storm
- Injuries sustained as a result of the winter storm

Reporting damage helps ODEMHS document the overall impact of the winter storm and helps support the case for further assistance to help homeowners, renters and business owners recover.

FEMA disaster assistance available

Oklahoma homeowners and renters in the 16 counties designated for individual assistance who sustained damage may now apply for [disaster assistance with FEMA](#), this includes Tulsa and Wagoner counties.

After applying for assistance, if you receive a letter from FEMA that says you're ineligible for help or that there is "no decision," read the letter carefully. FEMA may need additional information from you to continue processing your application. If you have insurance and are applying for federal assistance, you must file a claim with your insurance provider. If applicable, you will need to provide a copy of your insurance settlement approval or denial letter.

A few common reasons for being determined ineligible or receiving "no decision" include:

- **You are insured.** You must provide a copy of your insurance settlement approval or denial letter to FEMA. If your insurance settlement is insufficient to meet your disaster-related needs, you may be eligible for federal assistance. Contact FEMA to provide any additional information or documentation.
- **You reported no home damage or minimal damage when you registered with FEMA.** If you reported your home had no disaster-related impacts, but later discover new or additional damages to living areas, contact FEMA to let them know. Documentation from a local official or contractor supporting your appeal may help you prove that your home has suffered impacts to its habitability.
- **Proof of occupancy.** When FEMA is unable to verify the occupancy of your primary residence, you may need to provide documentation, such as utility bills, a bank or credit card statement, phone bill, pay stubs, a driver's license, state-issued ID card or voter registration card showing the damaged dwelling's address.
- **No initial rental assistance.** You indicated to the inspector that you were not willing to move while your damaged home was being repaired. This made you ineligible for FEMA temporary rental assistance. If you later found further damage to your home or your housing needs have changed, contact FEMA as soon as possible to update your housing status and explain why you have a need to relocate.
- **No communication with FEMA.** If you missed an inspection and did not follow up with FEMA, your assistance could be affected. Make sure that FEMA has your contact information. If you are unable to meet with an inspector as planned, let FEMA know.
- **Your home is safe to occupy.** FEMA housing assistance typically only covers costs to make your home habitable. Damage to non-essential space, landscaping or spoiled food is not covered by FEMA grants.

If you have questions or need to speak about your eligibility status, call 800-621-3362, open daily from 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Central Time. Multilingual operators are available.

Applicants can appeal a FEMA determination. To do so, you need to submit supporting information along with a letter describing in detail the reason (or reasons) you are appealing.

You should include your full name, FEMA application number and disaster number, pre-disaster primary residence address and current phone number and address on all submitted documents. You can find the application and disaster number printed on page 1 of your determination letter.

You can submit your appeal and any associated documentation by:

1. Uploading your documentation online at [disasterassistance.gov](#).
2. Mailing your documents and letter within 60 days of receiving your determination letter to the address below. **Your letter with accompanying documents must be postmarked within 60 days of the date on your letter from FEMA regarding your eligibility.**
 FEMA National Processing Service Center
 P.O. Box 10055
 Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055
1. Faxing your information to 800-827-8112.

Survivors should register online at [disasterassistance.gov](#). If you cannot register online, call

800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585). Those who use a relay service such as a videophone, InnoCaption or CapTel should update FEMA with their specific number assigned to that service.

City Council elections April 6



Elections for two City Council seats will be held on Tuesday, April 6. The representatives for Wards 1 and 2 will be chosen. Any registered voter in City limits can vote.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Registered voters can visit services.okelections.us to find their polling station.

Early voting will be available from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday, April 1, and Friday, April 2. Tulsa County residents can vote early at the Tulsa County Election Board, 555 N. Denver Ave. in Tulsa.

Wagoner County residents can vote early at Heritage United Methodist Church, 5300 E. Kenosha St.

Candidates for the seats are:

- Ward 1: Jonathan Kelly, Cathy Smythe, Debra Wimpee (incumbent).
- Ward 2: Lisa Ford, Craig Thurmond (incumbent).

Spring forward and check your smoke detectors

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m., Sunday, March 13. As you set your clocks forward, the Broken Arrow Fire Department recommends testing your smoke alarms, and changing the batteries if necessary.

Roughly two-thirds of home fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms usually fail to operate because batteries were defective.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) provides the following guidelines for smoke alarms:

- Test smoke alarms at least once per month using the test button.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows how to respond if an alarm goes off.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.
- Smoke alarms with nonreplaceable (long-life) batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years.
- For smoke alarms with any other type of battery, replace batteries at least once per year.

The importance of recycling

Broken Arrow has been rolling right along with our recycling cart system. Blue carts are being filled with aluminum cans, glass bottles, paper, and plastic jugs. Waste engineers and the recycling inspector have been monitoring contents for contamination as we continue to educate residents about what you can and cannot recycle in the blue carts.

Mia Morte, a 5th grader at Country Lane Intermediate, wrote to us about the importance of recycling and included a chart to show how long it takes for common items to break down naturally. Thank you for your research and message, Mia!

"If you want grown-ups to recycle, just tell their kids the importance of recycling, and they'll be all over it." – Bill Nye

If you have questions or want to learn more about [our recycling program](#), please contact our Recycling Outreach Coordinator Galea Albano at 918 259-2400, ext. 7364.

Recycling

By Mia Morte, Country Lane Intermediate 5th Grade

Recycling is important to the Earth because the sea animals are eating and getting sick from the trash in the ocean. Birds eat pieces of plastic that look like food and it makes them full, but they are not getting the nutrients to stay alive. Trash breaks down over time. Glass and plastic does not break down in 100 years. Wastes from once living things break down faster like an apple, whereas, metal, glass, and plastic take a long time to break down. If people do not start recycling, the Earth will become a garbage dump

and humans will have to live among their own mess. People can reduce their amount of waste by: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle to take care of our world for future generations of humans, plants, and animals.

Here is a table of weight and how long it takes it to break down over time. This shows the importance of recycling.

Trash item	1 day	1 month	1 year	25 years	100 years
Aluminum can	18 g	18 g	18 g	16 g	15 g
Plastic plate	6 g	6 g	6 g	6 g	6 g
Paper plate	8 g	8 g	3 g	0 g	0 g
Glass jar	290 g	290 g	290 g	290 g	290 g
Apple core	30 g	13 g	0 g	0 g	0 g

Storm siren testing resumes

The City of Broken Arrow's outdoor warning sirens are tested at noon on the first Wednesday of the month during storm season — March through September.

The sirens will only be tested if there are no overcast skies or storms in the area.

Should the weather not permit testing on the first Wednesday of the month, testing will be done the following Wednesday.

Please note: The City of Tulsa tests their sirens EVERY Wednesday at noon and several of these can be heard in western parts of Broken Arrow.

Register your storm shelter

The City of Broken Arrow maintains a database of storm shelters and safe rooms to assist emergency responders after a storm. If you have such a facility and have not yet registered it with the City, please take time to do so. An online form is located at BrokenArrowOK.gov/StormShelter or call 918-451-8309.

A reinforced underground storm shelter, storm cellar, enclosed basement or safe room is usually the safest place to go during a tornado.

If you cannot get underground, remember the basic guidelines. Put as many walls between you and the outside as you can, and stay away from doors, windows and other openings to the outside.

If you are outdoors and a tornado is heading your way, do not seek shelter under a bridge or overpass. Emergency officials say it is safer to lie flat in a low spot, as far from the road as possible.



Play a round at Battle Creek!

Did you know Battle Creek is owned by the City of Broken Arrow? Managed and maintained by Greenway Golf, Battle Creek features an 18-hole, par 72 course; practice facility and banquet hall with catering kitchen available for weddings and other celebrations. Visit BattleCreekGolf.net for more information.

[Book a tee time](#)

City offices closed April 2

City offices will be closed Friday, April 2, in observance of Good Friday.

There is no effect on trash service.

The Police and Fire Departments will remain open. If an emergency call requires the services of Public Works crews in Water or Streets, employees will be brought in to fix the emergency. The after-hours emergency number is 918-259-8400.

Community Calendar

Events are subject to change. Visit BrokenArrowOK.gov/calendar for updated events.

April 2 — Good Friday City offices closed.

April 6 — Election Day Wards 1 & 2. All registered voters in the City may vote.

April 6 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

April 8 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

April 17 — Get Fit Festival 10 a.m.-3 p.m., New Orleans Square.

April 20 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

April 22 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

April 24 — Free Dump Day 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Waste Management Quarry Landfill, 13720 E. 46th St. N. in Tulsa. Visit BrokenArrowOK.gov/FreeDump for details.

April 24 — HOA Workshop 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Stoney Creek Conference Center, 200 W Albany St.

May 4 — Broken Arrow City Council 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

May 13 — Planning Commission 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

View public meeting agendas at BrokenArrowOK.gov/Agendas.

BrokenArrowOK.gov | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

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