

NEW CONVENTION CENTER AND HOTELS

The 172-acre EpicCentral entertainment district welcomes the **Grand Prairie Events & Convention Center** and **two new hotels**, capitalizing on Grand Prairie's central location in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.



The state-of-the-art convention center is 13,000 square feet with 10,000 square feet of usable space.

Features include A/V functionality, custom event enhancements and multiple spaces, including five meeting rooms, an executive boardroom and a pre-function space to accommodate groups of any size from intimate gatherings to large meetings of up to 1,000 guests. Event planners will also have access to a trained culinary team with on-site customizable catering options.

Conveniently connected to the convention center, two hotels are equally suitable for a comfortable and relaxing stay. The shared lobby greets guests with its beautiful decor, bar space and big windows overlooking the outdoor pool. **The Hilton Garden Inn** offers a more traditional guest experience, while **Homewood Suites** is more suited for longer stays. And with reasonable price points, pet-friendly rooms and a resort-like feel, it's the perfect spot for staycations and out-of-town guests.

FARMERS MARKET OPENS APRIL 6



Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Grand Prairie Farmers Market, 120 W. Main St.

The Farmers Market reopens on Saturday, April 6. Explore fresh produce, tasty food and unique crafts. gptx.org/farmersmarket

COOKIES AND CONVERSATIONS WITH COUNCILWOMAN BESSYE ADAMS

Saturday, April 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Grand Peninsula Clubhouse
 2603 N. Grand Peninsula

Join Place 7 At Large Council Member Bessye Adams for a Town Hall Meeting to address community interests concerning the City of Grand Prairie. Scan the QR code to attend the meeting virtually via Zoom.



MAYOR'S COMMUNITY 5K



Saturday, April 6

Farmers Market, 120 W. Main St.
 Registration: 8 a.m.,
 5K begins at 9:30 a.m.

Join Mayor Ron Jensen as he kicks off the 2024 Cyclin' with the Mayor season. The Community 5K is a free event. T-shirts will be available while supplies last.

UPTOWN THEATER

Enjoy events at Grand Prairie's Uptown Theater, 120 W. Main St. For tickets and information, call 972-237-8786 or visit uptowntheatergp.com.

9 to 5: The Musical

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council

March 15-24

Featuring music and lyrics by Dolly Parton.



GPISD's 3rd Annual Transition Clinic

Wednesday, March 27

This in-person event will provide resources, services and support available from local agencies for students with disabilities and their families.

For questions and information, contact: Amber Manzano 972-522-3313 or email Amber.Manzano@gpisd.org

EVENTS AT EPICCENTRAL

2961 SH 161, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052

March 9-16: Concerts, Library Events, and Dinosaurs in the Park

March 17: St. Patrick's Day at EpicCentral

March 22-24: Spring Break Concerts

For more information, visit EpicCentral.com.



THE BIG EVENT

Saturday, March 23

This one-day event offers great opportunities for neighbors to come together and help one another. Volunteers will be matched with different service projects based on skills. All jobs take place outdoors with no power tools used and can be completed within a few hours. Sign up with a volunteer group or submit a job request at gptx.org/bigevent. Sponsorship opportunities available. Deadline to register is March 1, 2024.



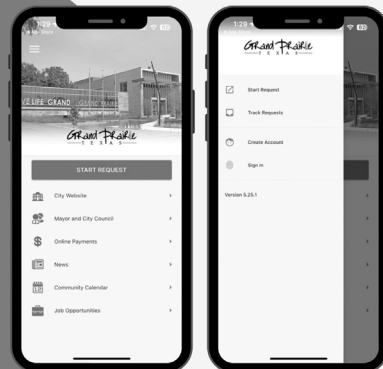
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GARAGE SALE PERMITS ONLINE ONLY

Garage sale permits are free and now available only through the Customer Self-Service (CSS) Portal from a computer or tablet. Only two garage sales are allowed per year for each residential address. You must have your device connected to a printer before beginning this process.

How do I use the CSS Permit Portal?

- Go to gptx.org/garagesale
- Click on the Apply Online button
- Register for an account, if you don't already have one with your email address, before you can apply for a permit. It will take about five minutes for first time users to create a new account
- Click on Apply
- Click on the Apply button next to Garage Sale Permit-Residential Garage Sale
- When you key in your address do not put in St., Dr. or any other suffix after the street name and make sure the cursor is at the end of the last letter of the street name
- Complete the form
- Proceed to follow instructions and print the 2-page form of Certificate and GS Permit Numbers

COUNTDOWN TO ECLIPSE ACTIVITIES

Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

April 4 and 5 at 4:30 pm

April 6 at 11a.m.

For ages 4+ and their families

The full eclipse over DFW is April 8. Countdown with some out of this world activities by Mission2Mars and the Franklin Institute. To register email Jennifer, jllusk@gptx.org.

April 4: Spotting Craters

April 5: Paper Mars Helicopters

April 6: Mars Candy Core Samples

More solar eclipse info.:

visitgrandprairietx.com/solareclipse2024



EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA

Saturday, March 30, 10 a.m.-noon

Mike Lewis Park

2600 Block of North Carrier Parkway

Children ages 10 and younger are invited to the annual Easter Egg-Stravaganza to hunt for thousands of eggs and prizes. Kids will be divided into age groups (0-2 years old, 3-5 year olds, 6-7 year olds and 8-10 year olds) and will participate in different hunts. Photo opportunities with the Easter bunny, arts and crafts, face painting and other entertainment will be featured. Event admission is free.



EASTER EGG SWIM

Saturday, March 30, 1-6 p.m.

Kirby Creek Natatorium, 3201 Corn Valley Road
\$5 per swimmer

Bring an Easter basket or bag and enjoy swimming and collecting Easter eggs to exchange for candy. The event will include a bounce house and photos with the Easter bunny.



EGG MY HOUSE

Let Grand Prairie Animal Services “egg” your house. Wake up on Easter morning, Sunday, March 31, to your yard covered in plastic eggs filled with candy or pet treats. Eggs can also be delivered to you for set up, or they can be picked up. The event is only open to Grand Prairie residents. Proceeds benefit Grand Prairie Animal Services. Purchase eggs online at gptx.org/paws. For questions and additional information, email Angellee Vincent at GPASEvents@gptx.org.



MASTER COMPOSTER CLASS

Saturday, March 30 and Saturday, April 6
Grand Prairie Landfill, 1102 MacArthur Blvd.

The City of Grand Prairie will be offering a STAR-certified master composter course this spring. To be eligible for the certification, participants must complete 20 hours of education, 16 in class and four outside of class, as well as 20 hours of eligible volunteer activity to include composting at the Kirby Creek Nature Center. Participants should plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be provided. Additionally there will be a four-hour field trip on another day TBD.

There is a \$25 registration fee for Grand Prairie residents and \$40 fee for non-residents. Payment for the class must be received by March 25, 2024. Checks must be made payable to the City of Grand Prairie. There must be a minimum of 10 participants for the class to be held. Refunds will be issued if the class is cancelled. For more information or to register, call 972-237-4566 or visit gptx.org/mastercomposters.



STATE OF THE CITY

The State of the City presentation and dinner will be March 7, 2024 hosted by the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce. Info.: 972-264-1558 or grandprairiechamber.org.

HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVE OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN GRAND PRAIRIE

Tuesday, March 19, 6-8 p.m.
Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Thursday, March 21, 6-8 p.m.
Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Rd.

For the first time in Grand Prairie's more than 150-year history, this new book, *The History and Perspective of the African-American Experience in Grand Prairie, Texas*, pulls together and documents the history of African Americans in Grand Prairie. Meet the author and have the opportunity to buy Grand Prairie's newest history book.



TAX HELP

Volunteers from the AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) will provide free tax help for seniors and low-income residents from February 5 through April 15. Help sessions will be by appointment only, at the Veterans Event Center on Mondays and Wednesdays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

To make an appointment, call 972-237-5740 (the Shotwell Library). The Veterans Event Center is located at 925 Conover Drive, next door to the Main Library.

INSURE YOUR PROPERTY FOR FLOODING

The City of Grand Prairie participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Residents who live in a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)/Floodplain are required to buy flood insurance if they have a mortgage from a federally regulated lender but anyone who lives in Grand Prairie, including renters, can purchase NFIP flood insurance. Most homeowner

insurance policies do not cover flood damage and unfortunately, many property owners do not find out until it's too late that their policies do not cover flooding. Following the 2015 Grand Prairie flood events, 90 percent of flood damages reported to the city were outside the FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Every property is vulnerable to a flood and flooding can happen anywhere, at any time. That's why it's important to secure flood insurance, even if you live in an area with low-to-moderate flooding risk. NFIP defines covered flooding as any temporary event where the surface of normally dry land is partially or completely underwater, affecting two or more acres of land, or two or more properties.

Flooding can be caused by:

- Overflow of inland (lake or river) or coastal waters
- Pooling or runoff of surface waters from any source, such as heavy rainfall
- Mudflows
- Collapse of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water due to wave or water currents

The NFIP offers a separate policy that protects your single most important financial asset— your home or business. A specific FEMA flood insurance rider must be purchased through an insurance agent to obtain these policies, but City of Grand Prairie residents can get a discount on this policy due to its participation and rating in the Community Rating System. Flood insurance is sold through private insurance companies and agents and is backed by the federal government. Typically, a 30-day waiting period is required when purchasing a new policy but here are a couple of exceptions:

- If you initially purchased flood insurance while securing, adjusting, or renewing a loan for your property, there is no waiting period.
- Coverage goes into effect when the loan is closed and if you live in an area newly affected by a flood risk map change.

Additionally, the 30-day waiting period may not apply if your property experiences flood damage caused by wildfire in your community. Keeping these exceptions in mind, plan so you are not caught without insurance. The policy does not cover losses caused by a flood that occurred prior to the policy becoming effective. In addition, you cannot increase your insurance coverage once a flood has begun.

More information about obtaining flood insurance can be found by contacting your insurance agent or visiting: floodsmart.gov/flood-insurance-provider and more info on the City of Grand Prairie's flood management and CRS activities are available at gptx.org/floodplain.



LATE NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY

Friday, March 8
6 p.m.

Main Library
901 Conover Dr.
\$5 cash fee
at the door



For ages 21 and older. Join the library for a fun game of Lotería after hours in the library as a great end to the week.

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

Carbon monoxide, also known as CO, is called the “Invisible Killer” because it's a colorless, odorless and poisonous gas. CO poisoning is associated with consumer products, including generators and faulty or incorrectly vented fuel-burning appliances such as furnaces, stoves, water heaters and fireplaces.

Safety Tips:

- Install CO alarms in a central location on every floor of your home. Test each alarm monthly.
- Never use your oven to heat your home. Don't run a fuel-burning vehicle or generator indoors, even if garage doors are open.
- Barbecue grills produce CO and should only be used outside. Never use grills or generators inside your home, garage or near an open building entrance.

Hear the Alarm?

- Immediately move to fresh air and call 911.
- Remain in a fresh air location until emergency personnel say it is safe.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries or other trouble indicators.

Questions? Contact Grand Prairie's Office of Emergency Management at 972-237-8333 or oem@gptx.org.