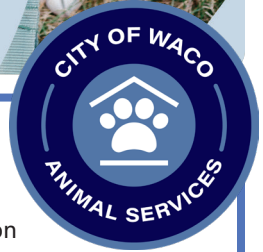




CITYLIMITS **SEPT** 2024



Where Lost Becomes Found. Believe it! Waco Animal Shelter Saves Lives and Finds Forever Homes

The Waco Animal Shelter, located at 2032 Circle Road, is a regional shelter for lost and homeless pets. They take in strays from 13 surrounding cities and McLennan County. The Animal Shelter is open-admission, which means no animal is turned away. Despite a high intake of nearly 4,000 animals each year, the shelter boasts a 90% live exit rate, thanks to our staff, volunteers, and partners.



Visit waco-texas.com/animals for live statistics on animal intakes, shelter capacity, and adoptable pets.

SUPPORT THE SHELTER

As of July 24, there are over 240 animals at the Animal Shelter waiting for a new home, and there are over 560 additional animals in foster care. We encourage you to support the shelter by:

- Adopting and giving a pet a loving permanent home.
- Fostering a pet until they find their forever home.
- Volunteering at the shelter.



SPAY/NEUTER/MICROCHIP

Spaying/neutering and microchipping your pet are essential — and the law in Waco! Did you know? If an unspayed female dog had two litters of six puppies each per year, and then her puppies had puppies, after five years, we could have up to 320,356 puppies running around Waco. That's A LOT of puppies! Do your part in decreasing the stray population.



Waco residents qualify for FREE spay/neuter and microchip services for their pets through the Animal Birth Control Clinic. To schedule an appointment, call (254) 750-7099. If you reach the voicemail, please leave a message. (Se habla español.) For more information, visit waco-texas.com/spay.

LOST PETS WACO

The Lost Pets Waco map is a vital tool in reconnecting you with your lost pet. When a stray animal is found by Animal Control in Waco or in one of our



partner cities, the location and photo is uploaded on the map, and the animal is put on a 72-hour hold for owners to reclaim them. After 72 hours, they enter the inventory at the animal shelter and can still be reclaimed if available. Microchipped pets claimed within the 72-hour window are FREE to reclaim. To learn more, visit lostpetswaco.com.

REPORT CONCERNS

When fully staffed, six animal control officers promote animal welfare and uphold the city's ordinances for the entire City of Waco. Contact an animal control officer at (254) 750-1795 during business hours to report loose or aggressive animals, animal cruelty or neglect, stray animals, and more. Officers could be in the field, so please leave a detailed voicemail as needed. Someone will return your call. For after-hours requests, contact the Waco Police Department at (254) 750-7500.

For more information and animal resources, visit waco-texas.com/animals.



Sent to press on July 24, 2024.

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A History of Waco's Regional Water Source

Waco's 175th Anniversary: Celebrating Lake Waco



Lake Waco Dam in 1946. Photo courtesy of the Texas Collection.



Construction of the Lake Waco Dam expansion in 1963. Photo courtesy of the Texas Collection.

Waco's 175th anniversary offers a fitting opportunity to reflect on the vital role that Lake Waco plays in our community and recognize the decades of planning, and collaboration. Lake Waco is a man-made reservoir that provides water to Waco and several surrounding cities. It is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Discussions about damming the Bosque River date back to at least November 1921. After discussions and studies, voters narrowly approved a bond in 1926. Construction began in 1928 in the lower Bosque River, and the lake was named Lake Waco that same year. The 1.25-mile-long dam was dedicated in 1930, and it served Waco for the next 30 years.

By 1945, a new dam was needed for flood control and to address reduced water storage. Construction of a larger dam began in 1958, facing delays but ultimately raising the lake level in September 1965 from 430 to 455 feet. Waco's growth demanded more water. The City requested

a further increase in lake level in 1977, gaining approval in 1983. Finally, in October 2003, after nearly 26 years of planning, the lake level was raised to its current level at 462 feet.

The creation and expansion of Lake Waco highlights the collaboration and planning required to establish a reliable water supply for the City of Waco and surrounding communities. While the the lake level has remained at 462 feet, the City of Waco remains committed to protecting our regional water source because, in Texas, droughts could always be around the corner. Vigilance, conservation, and long-term planning are crucial to sustaining Lake Waco for generations to come.

To learn more about Lake Waco, read the full article at waco-texas.com/175LakeWaco.



Register Now!

Join Us at the 2024 Green Communities Conference



Registration is now open for the 2024 Green Communities Conference. The theme for this year is Sustainable Innovation For All. The conference brings together hundreds of passionate sustainability leaders from all over Texas to dream greener together. Topics this year include education, health, and financial security as they relate to sustainability. The conference is organized by the Waco Sustainability Network and presented by City of Waco Watershed Protection and Central Crushed Concrete.

The conference is open to anyone interested in sustainability. General admission is \$25. Scholarships are available. To register, visit waco-texas.com/greencommunities.



Fun at the Waco Library

Join Us for Hobbit Weekend Adventures



September 22 is Hobbit Day in honor of Bilbo and Frodo Baggins' birthdays. Adventurers of all ages are invited to Central Library from Friday, September 20 to Sunday, September 22 to complete challenges as you journey through Middle Earth.

Adventurers that complete their journey will have a chance to win the Arkenstone and a copy of "The Hobbit." Kids can also collect a treasure from Smaug's trove. Plus enjoy Hobbit photo ops starting at Bilbo's front door, including floating barrels, an ogre, and even Smaug!



Work for Waco

Job Opening Highlight: Building Inspectors



The City of Waco is seeking qualified inspectors to join our team! Make a difference in your community by ensuring buildings are constructed to code. We have openings for plumbing/mechanical inspectors and electrical inspectors.

As one of the largest employers in town, the City of Waco offers competitive salaries and benefits, tuition reimbursement, paid parental leave, job security, and an opportunity to give back to your community. To apply, visit workforwaco.com.



Prioritize Your Health with Waco-McLennan Public Health



New Look. Same Award-Winning Service.

Waco-McLennan Public Health's new logo embodies the organization's core values and mission. The central element features five individuals arranged in a circle, symbolizing unity and collaboration among the divisions in the Health District. The uniformity of the figures replaces the previous figure depicting a family to focus on the broader spectrum of people that the district serves. The color palette reinforces the diversity of our community and offers each division a brand identity. To learn more about Waco-McLennan Public Health, visit waco-texas.com/health.



September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month serves to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. Being prepared means having your own kit with food, water, and other supplies to last for several days. Supplies could include a battery-powered or hand crank radio, flash light, first aid kit, extra batteries, and more. Items should be stored in airtight plastic bags and ready to go in an easy-to-carry container like a plastic bin or a duffel bag. Learn more at waco-texas.com/preparedness.



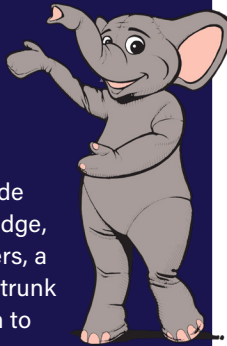
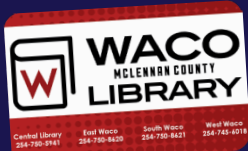
Save the Date: Let's Walk Waco Starts September 7

Any movement is good movement! The goal of Let's Walk Waco is to help you and your friends feel better, create community and support, and increase your number of weekly walks. Join us for Let's Walk Waco from September 7 to November 9. The kickoff event will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 7 at the Bridge Street Farmers Market. During the eight weeks, you can challenge each other to see how many miles you can walk. Don't forget to log and track your miles to be eligible for prizes. Learn more at waco-texas.com/letswalkwaco.



Where Imagination Comes to Life

Library Card Sign-Up Month



Whether you want to upgrade your skills, scout for knowledge, or connect with other readers, a library card is your key to a trunk full of resources! In addition to books, a library card gives you access to an abundance of online resources, movies, kits, and even free passes to local attractions like Cameron Park Zoo.

Visit one of the four Waco-McLennan County Library locations to sign up for a library card or sign up online at wacolibrary.org.

- **Central Library**, 1717 Austin Avenue
- **East Waco Library**, 901 Elm Avenue
- **South Waco Library**, 2737 S. 18th Street
- **West Waco Library**, 5301 Bosque Boulevard



Where Neighbors Help Neighbors

Make a Difference & Join Your Neighborhood Association



Whether you're new to Waco or a long-term resident, now is the time to join your neighborhood association. Improve your neighborhood, meet your neighbors, and collaborate with your City government. Learn more at waco-texas.com/neighborhoods.



Where Wildlife Meets Wellness

Veterinary Hospital and Education Center Coming Soon



Cameron Park Zoo is expected to open the Corwin, Estes, and Jaynes Education Center and the Carol Schmidhauser Veterinary Hospital later this fall. The hospital will house surgical suites, pharmaceutical storage, and environmentally controlled holding spaces for animals under care or observation. The education center will feature classrooms, offices, and event rental space. The adjoining facility will offer a new hub for public education and professional development in animal care.

Bell's Hill Park Baseball Field Makeover

Courtesy of the Bobcat Company and Chip Gaines

The Bobcat Company teamed up with their brand ambassador Chip Gaines and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) for a \$100,000 baseball field renovation at Bell's Hill Park. On Tuesday, June 16, Chip Gaines, Bobcat, City of Waco staff, celebrated the baseball field's refreshed dirt field with a fun game. Following the game, the real work began with the demolition, dragging and striping of the field, installation of the bases and limestone blocks, and more. Through Bobcat's partnership with Chip Gaines, Waco was selected to launch

a nationwide renovation contest where another parks and recreation department will win their very own \$100,000 transformation. The baseball field was the perfect project because of the park's aging infrastructure, its 80-year legacy, and its future integration with Floyd Casey Park.

Huge thank you to the Bobcat Company, Chip Gaines, and the NRPA for their investment. To learn more, visit waco-texas.com/bellhillmakeover.



Drive the Difference in Waco

Waco MPO Celebrates 50th Anniversary



The Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) was established in 1974 in compliance with federal legislation to enhance transportation planning and policy in McLennan County. The organization has worked together with state and federal partners to guide safe, efficient, and equitable transportation systems for all residents, including the recent expansions of State Highway 6 and U.S. Highway 35. Waco MPO's success can be attributed to the dedicated community members who volunteer their time to serve on its boards and committees. Waco MPO remains committed to enhancing our county transportation systems for generations to come. Learn more at waco-texas.com/mpo.



Stay Active

Programs and Activities for Waco Seniors



Adults 60 years and older are invited to come check out the Harrison and Sul Ross Senior Centers. Facilitated by Meals on Wheels Waco, both centers offer lunch and programming from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays with various activities, including card games, bingo, chair exercises, arts and crafts, and speaker presentations — perfect for retirees or part-time workers. There is no membership fee.

The three community centers also offer senior programs throughout the year. Contact each center, to learn more.

Harrison and Sul Ross:
(254) 752-0316, ext. 7013
Dewey Community Center: (254) 750-8677

Doris Miller Community Center: (254) 750-1956
South Waco Community Center: (254) 750-8650

For Sale

Rustic 136.38-Acre Tract and House



This large rustic home comes with two large bedrooms with cedar closets, a loft, two baths, a charming kitchen, ample storage, and a spacious patio. The property includes a three-car carport, and a high fence enclosing 131 acres, ideal for livestock. The minimum bid for sale is \$764,779. Viewings will be held in September and October. For viewing dates and times and to submit your bid, visit cityofwacoproperties.com.



UNIDOS
LA POLICIA TEXAÑOLINGÜE UNIDA CON LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA

¡Si tomas, no manejes!



6:30 P.M.
SOUTH WACO COMMUNITY CENTER, 2815 SPEIGHT AVE.
JUEVES, 19 DE SEPTIEMBRE

Aprende sobre DWI/DUIs en nuestra próxima reunión comunitaria presentada completamente en español.



MyWaco Report a Problem

Download the MyWaco app or visit mywaco.com.



Join Your Neighborhood Association

Learn more at waco-texas.com/neighborhoods.



Subscribe to the City eNewsletter

Text NEWS to 1 (888) 714-3083 or visit waco-texas.com/subscribe.



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