

2022

February | March

# CITY OF DENTON RESIDENT UPDATE



Denton Women's Interracial Fellowship Monument  
at the Newly-Named Wolff's Park on Industrial Street

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- New Interactive Projects Map
- Join the Great American Cleanup
- Let's Help You Recycle Right!
- Winter Is Here: Risk Reduction Tips
- In Case You Missed It...
- and more!



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## DENTON CITY COUNCIL

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**Not sure who your Council Member is?**  
Visit [www.cityofdenton.com/council](http://www.cityofdenton.com/council) and enter your physical address under "Find Your Council Member" at the bottom of the page.



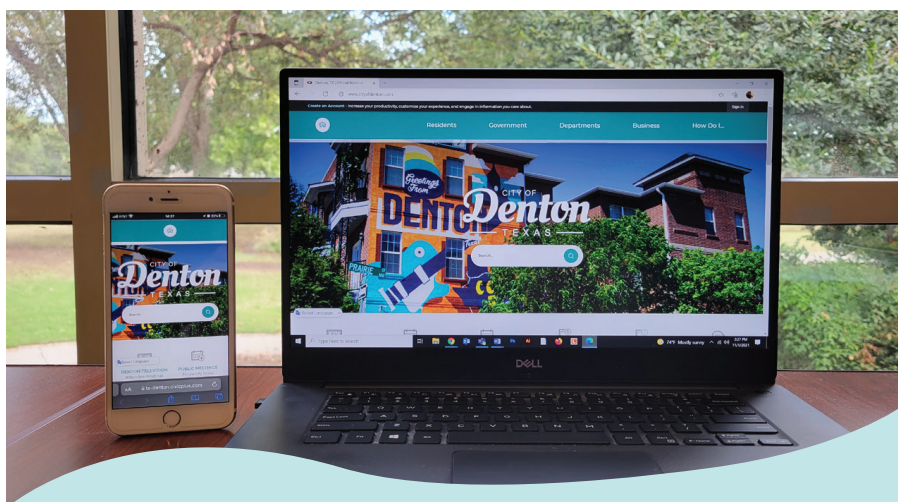
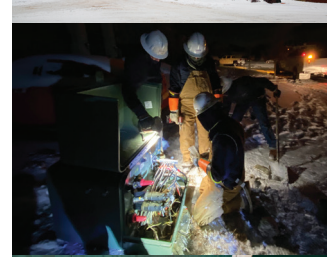
It's crazy to think that it has been a whole year since the very cold, very challenging events of February 2021. With sub-zero temperatures covering the state of Texas, power and water outages, empty store shelves, and hazardous driving conditions, the Denton community—**our community**—came together to care for one another once again. From local nonprofits to grass roots community groups, you showed up for one another when you were needed most.

It seems like we've experienced more "unprecedented events" in the last two years than ever before, but this community continues to rise to the occasion.

**We here at the City of Denton just want to take this moment to say "Thank you!"**

Though no one knows what lies ahead for us in 2022, just know that we will continue to work diligently every day to serve you, our residents, business owners, families, friends, and visitors.

We will continue to partner with local agencies to provide for those in need. We will work to provide you access to critical resources and information, safe roadways, reliable utilities, walking trails and playgrounds, diverse opportunities, and, per our Core Values, outstanding customer service.



## Stay Updated!

The MyAccount feature on the newly refreshed City of Denton website let's you customize your viewing experience, subscribe to notifications, and engage in information you care about!

Visit [cityofdenton.com/notify](http://cityofdenton.com/notify) to opt in to email or text notifications for new press releases, development notices, department stories, and much more!



## City Launches New Online Interactive Map For Capital Improvement Projects

A new online Capital Improvement Projects map is now available to help community members stay informed about construction and improvement projects planned, actively in construction, and recently completed to expand the City's infrastructure.

### What is a Capital Improvement Project (CIP)?

A CIP is an infrastructure project that helps expand or improve the capacity of a City asset. They can be big, like a major roadway or waterline, or small projects, like playground updates, or even public art installations.

### What project details can be found on the CIP Map?

The CIP Map will serve as a unique guide for community members wanting to stay informed on project details such as project description, bond year, expected construction timeline, and total project cost. For select projects, direct links to Discuss Denton and other project resources will be available.

### What is the timeline for CIP projects displayed on the map?

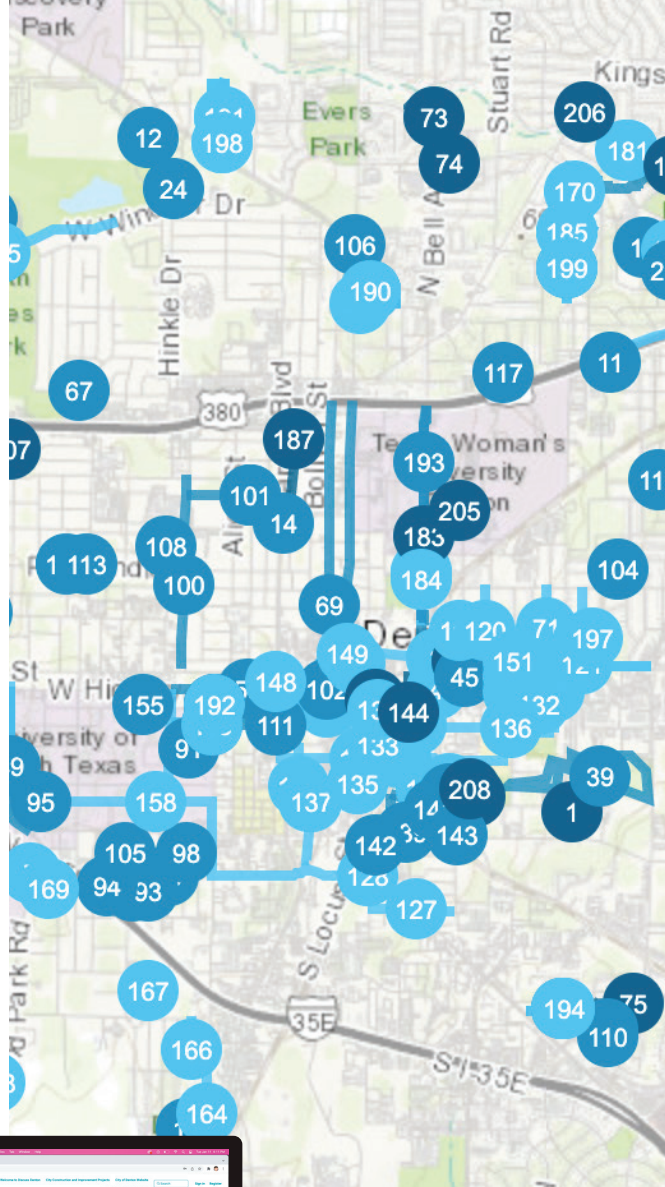
The CIP map displays major projects that are scheduled to initiate construction within the next year (planned), projects currently under construction (in progress), and projects that have been completed within the last 60 days (recently completed).

### How can I access the CIP Map?

Using any internet enabled device, visit [www.improvingdenton.com](http://www.improvingdenton.com) to view and learn more about the CIP Map.

### What type of projects are not displayed on the CIP Map?

Routine maintenance projects, such as pot hole repairs and minor sidewalk maintenance will not be featured on the map. The weekly street closure report (SCR) that includes routine maintenance and other projects is available at [www.improvingdenton.com](http://www.improvingdenton.com).



**CHECK IT OUT TODAY!**  
[www.improvingdenton.com](http://www.improvingdenton.com)



Are you a Dentonite with an Instagram account and a love of local history? **US TOO!**

Be sure to follow [@PreserveDenton](https://www.instagram.com/PreserveDenton) for all sorts of great photos, history, and stories about our great city!





# Join us for the Great American Cleanup!

Each year, thousands of volunteers join Keep Denton Beautiful (KDB) to improve the beauty and environmental health of the community during the Great American Cleanup (GAC).

**Over the last five years alone, the GAC has cleaned up 28.5 tons (57,064 lbs.) of litter from our community!**

Litter cleanups not only make our city look beautiful but create healthy habitats for wildlife and provide education in practice as volunteers see what items are littered and think about how they can change their behaviors to reduce consumption. They also have numerous economic benefits and build awareness as volunteers share their experience and knowledge with their network. You can join KDB this year on **Saturday, March 26** for Denton's largest, longest-running litter cleanup event.

Help KDB reach its goal of **1,500 community participants** to remove **thousands of pounds** of litter from Denton's streets, waterways, and public spaces that have accumulated during the winter months. After the litter cleanup, head over to Quakertown Park, 321 E. McKinney St., for KDB's **Volunteer Appreciation Party** for free lunch, music, kids' bounce houses, and family-fun educational booths to learn about recycling, sustainability, water quality, libraries, and more.

**Volunteers of all ages and experience levels are welcome to participate.** You can join this effort by registering as an individual or with a group to clean up a littered site in Denton. Sign up at [www.bitly.com/denton-volunteer](http://www.bitly.com/denton-volunteer) by Wednesday, March 16 at 5 p.m. Participants receive free litter cleanup supplies and, while supplies last, a **free event T-shirt**. For questions or to register over the phone, call (940) 349-8737.

In partnership with the Great American Cleanup, the City will be hosting a **Free Disposal Day** on Saturday, March 26 from 7 a.m. to noon at the City of Denton Landfill, 1527 S. Mayhill Rd. Bring your bulky items and spring-cleaning clutter. This event is open to Denton residents with proof of residency, one trip per resident. No electronics, brush, tires, household chemicals, items containing Freon, construction, demolition, or commercial waste will be accepted.

The Great American Cleanup is part of a nationwide effort led by Keep America Beautiful. Denton is one of more than 20,000 communities that participate each year.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**YOU NEED A PERMIT TO BUILD A FENCE AT HOME**

It's true! Most contractors will handle this as part of their fee, but your average handyperson might not. Permits are only \$44 per residential property and are easy to obtain.

Things we look for:

- Is it built safely?
- Is it on an easement?
- Do you have a pool?
- Have you gotten underground lines marked?

To learn more and fill out an application visit [www.cityofdenton.com/fencepermits](http://www.cityofdenton.com/fencepermits)

 **Denton PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### WINTER READING RESOLUTION

Track Reading Hours, Earn Badges, & Win Prizes

**Now through Feb. 28**

Sign up here: <https://denton.readsquared.com>



# We're here to help you Recycle Right!

The City's Solid Waste and Recycling Department has seen an increase in recycling contamination, which is described as non-program materials being placed into your curbside recycling carts.

Through outreach efforts to help educate residents, the department has started a **cart tagging program**. Routes are chosen by the highest percentage of contamination for a concentrated approach.

The cart tagging program consists of a three-tag process:

- **Recycling Star** is given to residents doing a spectacular job at recycling.
- A **Notice tag** is left when a resident is doing well but has a few common contaminants.
- An **Oops! tag/Contamination tag** is given when the cart contains 15 percent or greater contamination.



as contaminated, a tag will be left and the cart is not collected. The resident is then instructed to remove any contamination, and the cart will be collected on their next collection day.

A second inspection would occur the following week to check the progress of the previously contaminated cart. If the items have not been removed, the cart would be tagged again. The most

common unknown contaminants are bagged recyclables and plastic film.

The purpose of the program is to educate and increase the quality of the recycling stream. To date, the interns have visited 31 routes,

We begin each inspection of the recycling cart by looking for any cracks, lid, or wheel damage, and updating any educational materials. We then lift each lid and do a quick visual inspection. If a cart is labeled

inspected 2,744 homes, and left a contamination tag at 27 percent of the homes inspected. Our residential contamination rate has decreased by 9 percent over just four months.



## Parks and Rec Events

**Feb. 11 | Valentine Family Dance**  
A dance for the entire family.

**Feb. 12 | Adapted Rec Sweetheart Ball**  
A sweet Saturday dinner and dance party.

**Feb. 22 | Black History Celebration**  
A celebration at MLK Jr. Rec Center.

**Feb. 26 | Career & College Fair**  
Explore your options!

**March 5 | Senior Center Open House**  
A great day for demos, discounts, and deals.

**March 5 | Women's History Month Celebration**  
Celebrate and learn at MLK Jr. Rec Center.

**We're Hiring**

For Spring Break & summer jobs!  
Learn more at [www.dentonjobs.com](http://www.dentonjobs.com)



# WINTER IS HERE

## Reduce Risk with These Simple Tips



Hi! My name is **Bob Martinez** and I am the new **Emergency Manager** here at the City of Denton.

The office of Emergency Management is located within the Denton Fire Department. In my role, I am charged with coordinating the City's Emergency Management Program (EMP), developing emergency plans, offering disaster preparedness training, conducting drills and exercises, and participating in public education programs. By working with numerous public, private, and nonprofit agencies to improve community preparedness and resilience. You never know what Texas weather will bring. Whether it's a winter storm, spring thunderstorm or the Texas summer heat, being prepared and having a plan is key.

### Do you know what to do when a disaster strikes?

For tips and information about emergency preparedness, visit [www.knowwhat2do.com](http://www.knowwhat2do.com).

A key factor in winter weather preparedness is the prevention of injury and limiting the potential of an emergency. While the **Denton Fire Department** is always ready to respond to emergencies of any sort, a little personal preparation can eliminate or minimize an emergency event from occurring.

The **National Fire Protection Administration (NFPA)** offers some key points to reduce personal and family risk for winter weather.

- Have your furnace/HVAC system **inspected and serviced** by a qualified professional.
- Make sure the wood for your fireplace or stove is **dry, seasoned wood**—do not use building materials or wood pallets.
- Your fireplace screen should be **metal or heat-tempered glass** in good condition and secured in front of the fireplace.
- Get a **covered metal container** to contain disposed ashes.
- Have your chimneys and vents **cleaned and inspected** by a qualified professional.
- Make sure children (and any flammable materials) are **at least 3 feet away** from any portable heat source or fireplace.
- Portable space heaters should have an **automatic shut-off** and should be plugged directly into an outlet, not a cord or power strip.
- **Never go to sleep with candles still burning** or leave candles unattended.
- Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms should be **tested, have fresh batteries, and in working condition**.

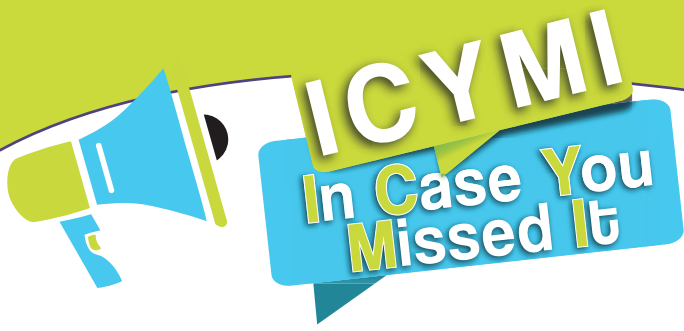
Additionally, severe winter storms can create **fall hazards** when you step outside and **vehicle hazards** when driving on frozen/icy streets. Some additional winter storm tips from the NFPA are:

- Plan **two ways out of the home** in case of emergency, clear driveway and front walk of ice and snow.
- Make sure your house number can be **seen from the street**, so we can find you.
- **Be ready** in case the power goes out. Have flashlights on hand and battery-powered lighting/batteries. The NFPA does not recommend the use of candles.
- **Stay aware of winter weather**, listen to the television or radio for updates. Watch for online bulletins and alerts.
- **Check on neighbors** or others who may need help.
- **Generators should ONLY be used outdoors**. Do not run a generator in your garage, even if the door is open.
- **Do not use portable propane space heaters indoors**.
- **Stay away from downed wires**, report them to authorities.
- **Be ready if the heat stops working**, have extra layers and blankets to keep warm.
- **Turn portable heaters off** when you leave the room and when you go to bed.

While the fire department is always ready to respond to emergencies, there are times, like the winter storms in February 2021, that severely tax our system. You need to **be prepared to be self-reliant** as we may have extended response times. **Stay inside and stay off the roads unless it is an emergency**. Also have some sand, salt or de-ice material for sidewalks around the house to lessen the likelihood of a fall injury.

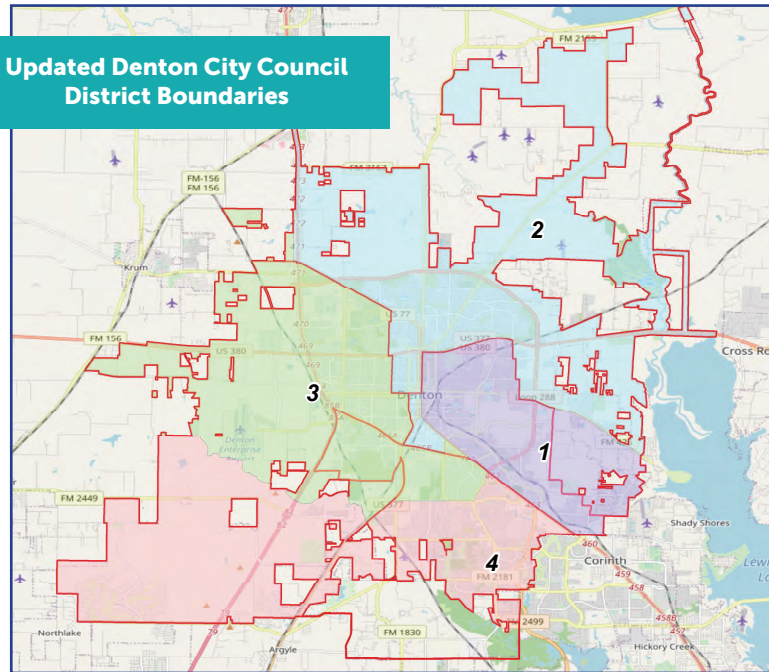
Lastly, visit [www.cityofdenton.com/alertdenton](http://www.cityofdenton.com/alertdenton) to register for Alert Denton, the City's new emergency alert system. Choose from multiple notification options, including delivery method, language, frequency, event type, and more. **Stay safe, Denton!**





## Denton City Council Approves New District Boundaries

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2021, the Denton City Council approved the redistricting of the City's single-member Council districts. The new district boundaries, which you can see below, are based on 2020 census data and will impact Denton City Council elections only. An estimated 26,368 total persons, or 18,724 registered voters, are now included in a new voting district and have new representation on the City Council.



Every 10 years, following the results of the US Census, the City has the opportunity to review its City Council districts to determine if population changes require district lines to be redrawn. In October 2021, the Council directed staff to move forward with redistricting, and a Public Input Period began on Oct. 27 and ended Dec. 7.

During this time, the public was able to provide comment and submit full redistricting proposals on the City's website, with a public hearing during the Dec. 7 City Council meeting. Citizens were also available to provide comment at the Dec. 14 City Council meeting.

The new voter districts were effective immediately and primarily impact elections for single-member Council district elections. The general election coming up in May will involve the City's mayoral and two at-large Council seats that are elected by the whole of Denton residents.

Visit [www.cityofdenton.com/council](http://www.cityofdenton.com/council) to view a digital copy of the new City Council district boundaries.

## Several City of Denton Parks and Recreation Facilities Get New Names

Denton Parks and Recreation recently changed the names of a few parks, ball fields, playgrounds, and trails to better connect them to Denton's history (and sometimes to explain where they are). This took months, included focus groups, and ended with City Council's approval. Here are just a few of these changes and the stories behind them!

### Carnegie Ridge Property → Maguire Park 6500 Ridglea Ct.

Cynthia and Patrick Maguire had a connection to the property where the development is, and had deep ties in the Denton community. Cynthia even retired from the Chemistry and Biochemistry department at Denton's own Texas Woman's University.



### Denia Park Field 1 → Tim Brewer Field 1001 Parvin St.

Tim Brewer grew up playing little league in Denton and was a baseball announcer for Denton High School. In 1972, he was named to the National Junior College All American team and later went on to pitch for the University of Arkansas where he earned All American honors in 1974. He passed away in 2016 and this is a wonderful way to honor his legacy.

### Evers Park Field 1 → Austin Jackson Field 3201 N. Locust St.

Austin Jackson was a Denton resident who grew up playing baseball at Evers Park and Denton Ryan High School. The center fielder was drafted by the New York Yankees, and he played for nine seasons with multiple teams. He also went to the World Series with the Detroit Tigers in 2012.

### Evers Park Field 2 → Javy Guerra Field

Javy Guerra began his baseball career at Evers Park and was drafted by the LA Dodgers out of Denton Ryan High School in 2004. Guerra debuted 2011, and pitched the ninth inning in the 2019 World Series as a Washington National.

### Wildflower Trail

Parks and Recreation staff planted wildflowers along a trail in North Lakes Park near the RC Airfield and the North Lakes Dog Park. This soft trail will continue to have wildflowers around it and it makes a lovely nature walk.

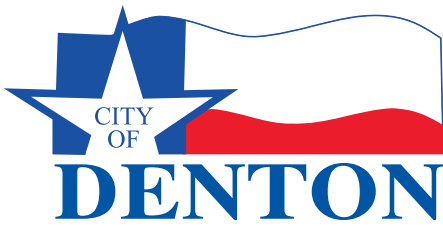
### Industrial Street Park → Wolff's Park 108 Industrial St.

This pocket park, which is now home to the new Denton Women's Interracial Fellowship Monument, has never been officially named, so it only made sense to name it after Wolff's Food Store, which was located next door from 1947 to 1997.



For the complete list, visit [www.dentonparks.com](http://www.dentonparks.com). 7





PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
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Denton, TX  
Permit No. 438  
**ECRWSS**

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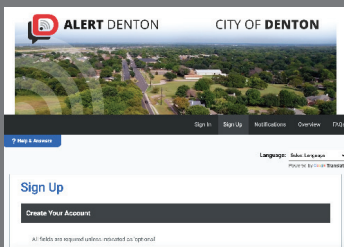
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

# CITY OF DENTON RESIDENT UPDATE

## CONNECT WITH US TO STAY UPDATED!

Want to know what's going on at the City of Denton? We've got you covered!  
Follow our official communication channels to stay updated about what's happening in **your city**.

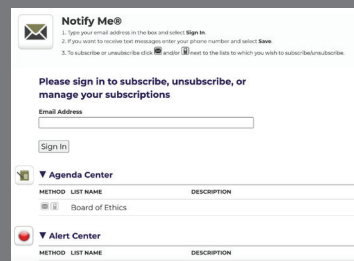
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 Nextdoor



RECYCLABLE  
IN THE  
CITY OF DENTON