

December Neighborhood Association Meetings

Thursday, December 17

North East Riverside Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
@ Bledsoe-Miller Community Center
(300 N. MLK, Jr. Blvd.)

Monday, December 22

Carver General Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
@ Carver Academy Library
(1601 J.J. Flewellen Rd.)

Monday, December 28

Brook Oaks General Meeting, 6 p.m.
@ Sul Ross Community Center
(15th St. and Waco Dr.)

Secret Santa Letter

Make sure Santa Claus receives your child's holiday wish list this year. Children can email or call Santa through December 15 and receive a special letter in the mail.

Santa can be reached at: santa@ci.waco.tx.us or by calling 750-5848.



Free Pictures With Santa

Santa at the Station: Waco Transit System will be offering FREE photos with Santa from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on December 18 inside the Waco Transit administration building (301 S. 8th St.).

Bring the whole family out to see Santa during this rain or shine event!

Please call 750-1900 for more information, or visit Waco Transit's Facebook page.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER

1	City Council Meeting *
2	Building Standards Commission Meeting
14	Plan Commission Meeting *
15	City Council Meeting *
24	Christmas Eve -- City Holiday
25	Christmas Day -- City Holiday

* Carried LIVE and replayed weekly on WCCCTV Cable Channel 10 and available for viewing on the City website. A more complete calendar is available online at www.waco-texas.com.

Holiday Camps at the Centers

South Waco and Bledsoe-Miller Community Centers are offering holiday camps for kids ages 5 to 13 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. during the holiday break. Children will take part in recreational activities, field trips and crafts. The Winter Camp is offered December 21 to December 31, and registration is \$70 per child.

The centers will be closed on December 24, 25 and January 1 for city holidays. The camps will provide snacks, but campers must bring a lunch. For more information or to register, call the community centers at: South Waco, 750-8650; and Bledsoe-Miller, 750-8684.

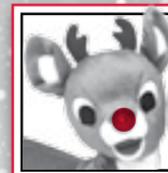
Safe Ride Home

If you or anyone you know is in need of a designated driver this New Year's Eve, look no further! Waco Transit System is offering the FREE "Safe Ride Home" event again this year for New Year's Eve! Call 750-1620 to book your FREE ride to and from your New Year's Eve event (must be within a five-mile radius of central Waco). Rides must be scheduled in advance.

Gone Graphic Reading Club

Adults who are interested in graphics are invited to the the Waco-McLennan County Library for a monthly gathering of like-minded people. Enjoy a favorite Manga, Graphic Novel, or Comic book, catch a super hero movie, test your knowledge on trivia, or learn about new graphic novels at the library. Suggestions for new titles are welcome. Be part of the ground floor for this new club! December 16 at 7 p.m. at the Central Library. Call 750 5941 for more information or visit wacolibrary.org.

WONDERLAND



Library Activities
Holiday Stories,
Crafts & Fun for
Little Ones



A Special Present
Give the Gift of Love,
With the Great Texas
Christmas Present



Holiday Pick-ups
Trash Collection
Calendar for the
Holiday Season



WACO City Limits

DECEMBER 2015

The City of Waco would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

Downtown Waco Wonderland

From Saturday, December 5 through Saturday, December 12, visit Heritage Square for eight days of food, fun and holiday cheer during the third annual Waco Wonderland festival. The event has something for the whole family, with lights, music, crafts, a parade, ice skating, a ferris wheel, a carousel, food vendors, fireworks and Santa Claus! [See FREE Activities at right.] →

From Heritage Square, extending up Austin Avenue to 8th St., Waco Wonderland will feature live music, vendor booths, bounce houses, craft activities, and special sales at a variety of shops and restaurants.

The fun begins Saturday, Dec. 5 at 10 a.m. when the skating rink opens. Buy a ticket and enjoy 45 minutes on the synthetic ice. Tickets can be purchased at the Waco Hippodrome, online (wacohippodrometheatre.com), or at the rink's ticket booth during event hours. Tickets for the ferris wheel and carousel can be purchased on site, as well as tickets for carriage rides.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, Heritage Square and City Hall will be illuminated with thousands of lights, along with the giant downtown Christmas tree, on display throughout the holidays. At 8 p.m., the City's Parks and Recreation Department will host a fireworks show.

Restaurants along Austin Ave. will be open all week during event hours, and mobile vendors will also be on site to provide great food and drinks. An ATM will be available on site as well. Free parking is available in the lot between City Hall and Franklin Ave. as well as in the lots adjacent to River Square Center. For prices, a schedule and more information, please visit www.wacowonderland.com.

Free Activities:

VISIT WITH SANTA Santa will visit with kids at the life-size Santa House. Bring a camera so you can take FREE pictures with Santa. Santa will be onsite during event hours.

SANTA MAIL STATION Write out a wish list and place in a Santa Mail Box for direct delivery to the North Pole.

H-E-B KIDS TENT Children can make Christmas cards and receive free goodies like reindeer antlers and more.

WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS Marvel at more than 30,000 lights that will decorate the trees of Heritage Square.

TOY DRIVE Shephards Heart Pantry will be hosting a toy and food drive throughout the week at Waco Wonderland.



Feast of Sharing: New Location

HEB will host the 26th Annual Feast of Sharing from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8 at the Waco Convention Center in downtown. The event is free to the public and will include music, children's activities, entertainment, turkey dinner and even a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. The Feast of Sharing is the culmination of a year-round commitment H-E-B makes to fighting hunger. For more information, please call 662-7500.



Library Activities

Toddler Time (ages 2 & under) is on Wednesdays at 10 and 10:45 a.m. at Central Library.

Holiday Storytimes (for ages 3 to 6) are at 10:30 a.m. at these locations:

Tuesdays – Bledsoe-Miller Center
Wednesdays – West Waco Library
Thursdays – Central Library
Fridays – South Waco Library

- **Bilingual Storytime** will be December 4 at South Waco Library at 11:30 a.m.
- **Sensory Storytime** (special needs, ages 3 to 12) will be at West Waco Library on December 10 from 4 to 5 p.m. Please call 750-5956 for more information.

Block Party Ages 5 & under are invited to build, play & create at the monthly Block Party at Central Library on Sunday, December 13 at 1:30 p.m. Register online at www.wacolibrary.org.

Game Time Ages 3 to 10 can enjoy a variety of board games at West Waco Library on December 3 from 4 to 6 p.m.

LEGO Lab (for ages 6 to 12) will be at Central Library on Saturday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m. Kids create masterpieces which will be on display in the children's department for the rest of the month. Register online at www.wacolibrary.org.

Create & Learn at the Library

Crafty Kids Class Make a variety of Christmas and snowmen crafts at the Holiday Crafty Kids Class on Saturday, December 12, at 1:30 p.m. at Central Library. For ages 6 to 12, this free class will construct a variety of holiday ornaments, including a holiday wreath, snowmen, and reindeer. Call 750-5942 for additional information and register online at www.wacolibrary.org.

Kids Computer Class Learn how to navigate the Library's Online Catalog at the Thursday, December 17 Kid's Computer Class at South Waco Library. The free class, for 3rd to 7th graders, is held from 4 to 5 p.m. Please call 750-5956 for more information, or register at www.wacolibrary.org.

Library Fun Just for TEENS

Retro Video Game Day Ages 11 to 17 can enjoy after-Christmas fun with Retro Game Day on December 29 at 2 p.m. at Central Library. Show off your mad gaming skills in a Wii™ Tournament and win prizes. Or, try DDR, Mario Kart, Sonic the Hedgehog, and other Wii and Game Cube games. Bring your Nintendo DS to the party, too! Visit www.wacolibrary.org for more information.

"It's Your Move" Board Games Day The Game Closet and the library present a fun-packed day of games for teens on December 30 at West Waco Library at 2 p.m. Play new games like DC Comics Deck-Building Game, Forbidden Island, Betrayal At Home on the Hill, and Pandemic. Enjoy a warm chocolate-y treat and play, play, play. Call 745-6018 for more information or visit www.wacolibrary.org.

Pizza & a Book Club 6th to 12th graders who love to read are invited to join the new Teen Pizza & a Book Club. This "read-what-you-want" book club meets once a month after school at West Waco Library. Bring a book you've read and would recommend on December 2 at 4:30 p.m. to West Waco Library and enjoy free pizza. Call 745-6018 for more information or visit www.wacolibrary.org.

Sounds of the Season at City Hall

Enjoy the beautiful sound of young voices singing Christmas carols and hymns during the Sounds of the Season music program at City Hall. Outstanding choirs, orchestras and bands from more than a dozen local schools will perform Christmas favorites in front of the tree in City Hall Monday through Friday, from December 1 through 19. The groups will be featured in high definition on the Waco City Cable Channel throughout the month of December. Come enjoy the performances in person, or visit the channel online at www.wccc.tv.

Solid Waste Holiday Schedule 2015-2016

Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015 – EARLY PICKUP DAY: Friday's trash (Christmas Day) will be collected today.

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015 – Christmas Eve
The Solid Waste Offices and Cobbs Recycling Center will be closed. The Landfill will be closed to the public but will accept franchise haulers until 4:30 p.m. **Trash will be collected as usual.**

Friday, Dec. 25, 2015 – Christmas Day
The Solid Waste Offices, Cobbs Recycling Center and the Landfill will be closed. **Friday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 23.**

Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2015 – EARLY PICKUP DAY: Friday's trash (New Year's Day) will be collected today.

Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 – New Year's Day
The Solid Waste Offices, Cobbs Recycling Center and the Landfill will be closed. **Friday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 30.**

Big Texas Christmas Present

Join us for a new, bigger and better "Big Texas Christmas Present," brought to you by Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram, benefiting Compassion Ministries.

Compassion Ministries helps those who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness into permanent housing and employment. They also provide a transitional housing facility, as well as financial training and other services. Compassion Ministries is accepting gift items including: children's toys, household goods, and gifts for teens and adults.

Beginning Thursday, December 10, join Big 95, Compassion Ministries, and the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum for the Big Patio Party at Don Carlos Mexican Restaurant from 5 to 7 p.m. On Friday, December 11, bring your donations to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.

On Saturday, December 12, come to Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram. Big 95, Compassion Ministries, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, and Mi Familia Car Club will be there from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and you can make your donation, win prizes, and learn more about the people your donations are helping. For each item donated at all three locations, you will receive one free admission pass to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. Each pass is good for 48 hours.



For more information, please visit:
www.allensamuelsdcj.com
www.compassionwaco.com
www.texasranger.org
www.kbgo.com

City Note:
City of Waco offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 24 & 25, but will reopen for business on Monday, December 28.

Trim Your Holiday Wasteline

We throw away 25% more trash during the holiday season. Luckily, in Waco, there are many ways to recycle items you no longer want:

Christmas Trees:

Real Christmas trees are collected from Waco residential curbsides during green weeks by Waco Solid Waste Services. Place trees at the curb near your grey trash cart. Trees should be stripped of decorations and stands. Waco residents can also drop off trees to be mulched at Cobbs Recycling Center or the Waco Landfill with a Waco water residential bill and a matching driver's license. Please call (254) 299-2612 to ask questions or go to waco-texas.com.

"Chipping of the Green"

Anyone can drop off their live trees at Keep Waco Beautiful's "Chipping of the Green" event at the Paul Tyson Field parking lot to be mulched. Visitors receive a free bag of mulch made from Christmas trees! The event will be held on Sat., January 9. Call KWB at 750-5728 or visit keepwacobeautiful.com to learn more.

E-waste Disposal

Did Santa bring you a new TV or computer for Christmas? Please don't put old computers or electronics in your trash or recycling carts. In Waco, outlets that accept computers, TVs and monitors are:

- Best Buy
- Goodwill (computers only, no TVs)
- Cobbs Recycling Center (Waco residents only) Accepts computers & peripherals, TVs and other consumer electronics. Proof of residency, such as a Waco utility bill and driver's license with a matching address is required. All electronics are shredded prior to recycling and not reused, so identity theft is not an issue. Call (254) 299-2612 to ask questions.