

## December Neighborhood Association Meetings

### Thursday, December 8

North East Riverside Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
@ East Waco Library

### Monday, December 12

Downtown NA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
@ Central Library

### Tuesday, December 13

Carver General Meeting, 5:30 p.m.  
@ Carver Academy Library

## 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](mailto:santa@ci.waco.tx.us) or 750-5848.

## Free Pictures With Santa

Waco Transit System will be offering FREE photos with Santa from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, December 9 inside the Waco Transit administration building (301 S. 8th Street). Bring the whole family out to see Santa during this rain or shine event! Photos will be available for download on the Waco Transit System Facebook page the week following the event. Santa at the Station was made possible through a partnership with the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District/WIC Program. Call 750-1900 for more information.

## Teen Library Events

**Teen Board Game Day** will be Dec. 1 at West Waco Library at 4 p.m.

**Arcade Videogame Day** will be Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. at East Waco Library.

**Minecraft** comes to East Waco Library on Dec. 10 at 3 p.m.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER

6	City Council Meeting * Feast of Sharing
7	Building Standards Commission Meeting
19	Plan Commission Meeting *
20	City Council Meeting *
23	Christmas Eve Observed -- City Holiday
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas Day
26	Christmas Day Observed -- 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](http://www.waco-texas.com).

## Christmas Trees at the Curbside

Live Christmas trees are collected from residential curbsides by the Waco Solid Waste Services Department during "green" weeks. Residents should place undecorated trees at the curb in front of their property near their grey trash cart. Christmas trees will be mulched with other green materials. Waco residents can also drop off their trees at the Cobbs Recycling Center or the Waco Landfill with proof of Waco residency, which is a driver's license and matching Waco water bill.

## Chipping of the Green

Anyone can drop off their live trees at Keep Waco Beautiful's "Chipping of the Green" collection event held near the HOT Coliseum. Visitors receive a free bag of mulch from Christmas trees! Collection days will be announced near the end of each calendar year. Call KWB at 750-5728 or visit [keepwacobeautiful.com](http://keepwacobeautiful.com).

## Safe Ride Home

Need a designated driver for you or your group this New Year's Eve? Waco Transit System's free "Safe Ride Home" program has you covered from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m.! Call 750-1620 to book your FREE ride to and from your New Year's Eve destination. Rides must be within the Waco urbanized area and booked in advance, with limited same-day availability. Reservation line opens December 1. Safe Ride Home was made possible thanks to Ben E. Keith Company and other community sponsors.

## Library Holiday Closures

All branches will be closed on the following days: December 24 - 26; December 31 (Closing at 5 p.m.); and January 1 - 2.



**Library Activities**  
Holiday Stories,  
Crafts & Fun for  
Little Ones



**A Special Present**  
Give the Gift of Love,  
Life: Gifts for Grannies  
& Carter Blood Care



**Building Waco**  
Preparing Our  
City's Infrastructure  
for Big Growth

# WACO City Limits

DECEMBER 2016

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

## Downtown Waco Wonderland

Come downtown to Heritage Square for holiday food, fun and cheer during the fourth annual Waco Wonderland festival! The celebration kicks off on Friday, December 2 at 5 p.m. with the opening of the Ferris Wheel, live music, food and art vendors, carriage rides and the visits with Santa.

A tree lighting ceremony and fireworks show concludes the first evening of holiday festivities. The Holiday Parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday followed by the opening of the Snow Tube Hill Saturday afternoon through Sunday evening.

For more information and a complete schedule follow us on Facebook or visit the website at [www.wacowonderland.com](http://www.wacowonderland.com).

## Holiday Camps at the Centers

Registration is ongoing for the City of Waco Parks & Recreation holiday camps. South Waco, Dewey, 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 breaks. Children take part in recreational activities, field trips, arts, crafts and more. The camps provide snacks, but campers must bring a sack lunch.

The Thanksgiving camp, offered November 21 through 23, and registration is \$40 per child. Winter Camp is December 19 through 30 (closed Dec. 23-26), and registration is \$70 per child.

For more information or to register, contact the centers at South Waco, 750-8650, Dewey, 750-8677 and Bledsoe-Miller, 750-8684.

## Solid Waste Holiday Schedule

**Friday, Dec. 23 – Christmas Eve Observed** (City Holiday) Solid Waste Offices & Cobbs Center will be closed. The Landfill will be open normal business hours. **Friday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 21st!**

**Saturday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve** Solid Waste Offices & Cobbs Center will be closed. The Landfill will be open normal business hours.

**Monday, Dec. 26 – Christmas Day Observed** (City Holiday) Solid Waste Offices & Cobbs Center will be closed. The Landfill will be closed to the public but will accept franchise haulers until 4:30 p.m. **Monday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 28th**

**Monday, Jan. 2 – New Year's Day Observed** (City Holiday) The Solid Waste Offices & Cobbs Center will be closed. The Landfill will be closed to the public but will accept franchise haulers until 4:30 p.m. **Monday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Jan. 4th**

## Feast of Sharing in its New Location

HEB will host the annual Feast of Sharing from 4 p.m. to 8 pm. on Tuesday, Dec. 6 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 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, call 662-7500.



## Library Activities

**Storytimes** (for ages 3 to 6), featuring stories, songs, crafts, snacks and more, are at 10:30 a.m. at these locations:  
 Tuesdays – East Waco Library  
 Wednesdays – West Waco Library  
 Thursdays – Central Library  
 Fridays – South Waco Library

### TOPICS

November 29 - December 1: My House, Your House (no Storytime December 2)  
 December 6-9: Christmas is Coming!  
 December 13-16: Holiday Celebrations  
 December 20-23: Ho, Ho, Ho! Guess Who! (No Storytime December 27-30)

**Sensory Storytime** (ages 3 to 6 - an inclusive storytime for all children) will be December 8 at 4:30 p.m. at West Waco Library.

**Toddler Time** (for ages 2 & under) with stories, songs, and age-appropriate play, is on Wednesdays at 10 and 10:45 a.m. at Central Library.

**Game Time** (for kids in elementary grades) is on December 1 at 4 p.m. at West Waco Library.

**Crafty Kids** (for kids in elementary grades) is on December 3 at 1 p.m. at Central Library.



## Family Night at the Library

Wear your Christmas jammies at the Waco-McLennan County Library's Pajama Family Night Storytime at West Waco Library on Thursday, December 22 at 7 p.m. Activities include Christmas stories, holiday crafts, and much more!

## The Best Gift of All

A healthy, happy start in life is the best gift of all for a new mother and her developing baby. The Waco-McLennan County Public Health District is working to give that gift through the WIC (Women, Infants & Children) Program. This special supplemental nutrition program offers eligible moms and children a variety of services, including:

- Healthy foods
- Tips for healthy eating
- Breastfeeding support and breast pumps
- Help finding other health and medical services

Who is eligible for a WIC evaluation? You may be eligible for WIC if you are pregnant, breastfeeding or have had a baby in the last 6 months. Infants and children up to age 5 may be eligible. In addition, applicants must meet the WIC Income Guidelines, live in McLennan County and complete a Health and Nutritional Risk Screening. To see if you qualify, call 1-800-942-3678 (toll-free), or call one of these WIC Offices:

WIC Clinic - Main Office  
 225 W. Waco Dr.  
 750-5474

WIC Clinic  
 1105 Washington Ave.  
 750-8623

TSTC WIC Clinic \*  
 94 Scott Circle  
 709-9935

S. 18th Community Clinic \*  
 1800 Gurley Ln.  
 709-9935

(\* indicates clinic is open only on certain days of the month)

## 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 during the week. 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](http://www.wccc.tv). A schedule of performers, dates, and times will be available on the City's website at: [www.waco-texas.com](http://www.waco-texas.com).

## Building Waco Prepares for Our Future

Waco is booming, and economic forecasts illustrate we're going to keep on growing. With present and future generations in mind, Building Waco, the City of Waco's 10-year capital improvement plan (CIP), will renew and build the essential infrastructure necessary to maintain Waco's quality of life, economic growth, and long-term sustainability.

Many of the structures, pipes and mechanical pumps that are vital to our water and wastewater systems are over 100 years old, and *must* be replaced and brought up to modern standards.

Over the next 10 years, Waco will undergo \$131 million in water projects, \$139 million in wastewater projects, and \$50 million in street improvements. In order to appropriately fund these efforts, effective January 1, 2017, our customers will see modest increases in their water and wastewater rates.

Among residential customers, using 8,000 gallons, the average water bill will increase by approximately \$10 per month. For the typical business customer using approximately 20,000 gallons a month, the average water bill will increase by roughly \$25 per month. Even *with* these increases, Waco's water rates will remain low compared to surrounding and similar cities. In fact, our water and wastewater rates will remain among the lowest in the region (see chart at right).

Waco's Water Utility Services department is committed to the preservation of high-quality water in Waco. We are determined to work with residents and businesses to deliver clean, safe and reliable water and wastewater services well into the future. Building Waco is about renewing and rebuilding essential infrastructure that will maintain the quality of life in the region for future generations.

With your help and support, we can ensure that Waco continues to attract people and businesses that allow our community to grow, while continuing to enjoy safe, clean, and reliable water services. For more information on Building Waco, visit [buildingwaco.com](http://buildingwaco.com) or follow the City of Waco on Facebook and Twitter.

## Big Texas Christmas Present

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, Friends for Life, Big 95 KBGO and Mi Familia Car Club have teamed up for the 5th annual "Big Texas Christmas Present" to benefit Gifts for Grannies, which provides gifts and items to the elderly and people with disabilities.

Donations will be accepted at the Museum on Saturday, December 10 from 1 to 3 p.m. Anyone making a donation to Gifts for Grannies will receive FREE admission to the Ranger Museum (one admission per item). Visit online at [friendsforlife.org](http://friendsforlife.org) for great gift ideas.



**City Note:**  
 City of Waco offices will be closed Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26, but will reopen for business on Tuesday, December 27.



## Water & Sewer Rate Comparison

The comparison chart below shows the Average Residential Combined Monthly Bill, based on the most recent rate information. (5/8" meter/ 8,000 gallons water/ 5,000 gallons sewer)

ROBINSON	\$130.42
LORENA	\$127.36
HEWITT	\$91.30
LUBBOCK	\$91.15
LACY LAKEVIEW	\$88.15
COLLEGE STATION	\$83.08
WOODWAY	\$79.80
DENTON	\$78.05
<b>WACO (2017)</b>	<b>\$76.82</b>
<b>WACO (2016)</b>	<b>\$67.43</b>
ABILENE	\$67.17
BEAUMONT	\$66.08
TYLER	\$58.84
BRYAN	\$58.42
KILLEEN	\$58.08
BELLMEAD	\$57.50
TEMPLE	\$55.70
ROBINSON	\$55.61