Census Day is April 1

In March, Lockhart residents will begin receiving packets in the mail containing detailed information concerning participation in the 2020 U.S. Census. By April 1 - Census Day - every home in the United States will have received a form inviting those inhabiting it to participate.

Getting a complete count in the Census, which occurs every 10 years, is important to residents of every community for myriad reasons that include:

- How many representatives each state gets in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- How the lines are drawn that define congressional and state legislative districts.
- It provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

Some Census FAQs

Why is it conducted?
It’s in the U.S. Constitution and is required every 10 years. The last one was performed in 2010, so the time has come.

When does it start?
The U.S. Census Bureau’s awareness campaign in which many local governments participate becomes more visible in January. Forms will start hitting residents’ mailboxes in March. The Bureau’s plan is to begin getting people to fill out the forms on April 1. Follow up notices will be sent to households between April and July.

Do I have to participate? Yes. It’s mandatory. Those who don’t participate may be subjected to fines.

Is it for U.S. citizens only? No. You only need to be a resident. The questionnaire asks about citizenship but does not ask for a Social Security number or about any financial matters.

What does it ask? The questions include the names, ages, sex and dates of birth of people living in the household.

Will the U.S. Census Bureau share my answers with law enforcement or any other entities? No. The information you share with the U.S. Census Bureau is confidential. The Bureau says there are safeguards built in to protect private information.

How can we fill it out? The form can be filled out online, by mail and by phone. If you don’t have Internet at your home, computer access is available through the Dr. Eugene Clark Library.

How is it tied to money? According to the Texas Demographic Center, the distribution of more than $675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities is based on Census data. The money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other programs. An undercount of the Texas population of just 1 percent could translate to a statewide loss of about $300 million in federal funding for those programs in communities within the state, according to the Center.

How about representation in the U.S. Congress? The trend has been that the state has gained representation in Congress after each Census. Texas received two additional seats in 1990 and 2000, and four seats following the 2010 Census.

City Hall: (512) 398-3461
Animal Shelter: (512) 376-3336 *after hours call (512) 398-4401
Animal Control: (512) 398-4401
Public Works: (512) 398-6452
Library / Technology Center: (512) 398-3223
Utility Billing: (512) 398-3461
Electric Department: (512) 398-6117 *after hours call (512) 398-4401
Fire Department: (512) 398-2321
Municipal Court: (512) 398-8330
Police Department: (512) 398-4401
Water Department: (512) 398-3515 *after hours call (512) 398-4401
Physical Address: City of Lockhart 308 West San Antonio Street Lockhart, Texas 78644 Phone: (512) 398-3461 Fax: (512) 398-5103 Website: www.lockhart-tx.org Television: City Access Channel 10 on Spectrum Cable
City-wide clean-up program in April

The City of Lockhart and Central Texas Refuse in April will sponsor a city-wide clean up program for current residential utility customers.

Bulky item pickup charges will not be applicable for allowed items picked up during this special clean up on the assigned days.

Items not accepted during this special clean-up: household garbage, brush/limbs, tree trunks, tires, batteries, pesticides, oil, paints, chemicals, varnishes, thinners, wire and lumber longer than 4 feet.

Household hazardous waste will not be accepted. A special Household Hazardous Cleanup for chemicals, pesticides, paints, etc. will be held March 14.

No items from residential or commercial construction sites will be accepted. Appliances, metal objects, and furniture must be stacked separately; appliances will be picked up separately. All loose materials must be in bags or in containers that cannot weigh more than 60 pounds.

All materials must be out at the property line by 8 a.m. on the date of your assigned pickup. Check the map for your pickup date.

Do not put material in the street, where it could reduce visibility at intersections and cause a traffic hazard.

Call Central Texas Refuse at 1-800-664-2833 for more information.