

### CITY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

In observance of the following holidays, all City offices will be closed:

Thursday, Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Day  
Friday, Nov. 27: Day after Thanksgiving  
Thursday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve  
Friday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day

### CITY COUNCIL

Lew White, Mayor  
Angie Gonzales-Sanchez, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Brad Westmoreland, At-Large  
Juan Mendoza, District 1  
Derrick David Bryant, District 2  
Kara McGregor, District 3  
Jeffrey Michelson, District 4

The City Council holds its regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Detailed agendas are available at [www.lockhart-tx.org](http://www.lockhart-tx.org). Council meetings are also video streamed live and indexed at [www.lockhart-tx.org](http://www.lockhart-tx.org)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

City Hall: (512) 398-3461

Animal Shelter: (512) 376-3336

Animal Control: (512) 376-3336  
\*after hours call (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) 398-3615  
\*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](http://www.lockhart-tx.org)

## Reverse parade planned for Dickens Christmas

While the Dickens Christmas tradition will continue, the celebration will have a different look this year as the country continues to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dickens 2020 will take the form of a reverse parade, which features floats that stay in place, allowing patrons in cars to view them as they drive slowly by.

Those who plan on driving through and viewing the floats are asked to remain safely in their vehicles. The reverse parade will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 5.

Should a spike in COVID-19 cases occur, public health emergency be issued, a natural disaster occurs, or other factors that could impact the event's safe production, the



city will respond accordingly with additional safety precautions or canceling the event.

The reverse parade route will be entered from East San Antonio Street onto South Commerce Street.

Follow the route to the reverse parade's end at the corner of Main and Prairie Lea Streets.

Other features of the traditional Dickens celebration will take on a virtual format, available for viewing on the Dr. Eugene Clark

Library's YouTube channel on or after December 5 through December 31.

The virtual celebration will include the lighting of the Christmas Tree by this year's Most Worthy Citizen and performances by the Lockhart High School band, Falconer, Ballet Folklorico and more.

And, of course, you need to get into the holiday spirit, stop by the Dr. Eugene Clark Library, where the halls have been thoroughly decked.

## 5 ways to pay your utility bill

The City of Lockhart offers the following easy methods to pay your bill in a snap:

- In person at Lockhart City Hall between 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- At municipal court, utility payments may be made at the drive-thru window, 1914 W. San Antonio Street. Hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- Online: Visit this website ... <https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/lockharttx>
- By phone: Payments by phone can be made at no additional cost to the customer using our 800 number: 855-340-0595.
- Drop box: A drive-thru drop box is located on Market Street outside City Hall.
- **COMING SOON:** An electronic kiosk will be located outside City Hall for another easy 24/7 payment alternative.

# Follow these tips to save money, energy this winter

Pipes that are not insulated can cause you to use more hot water.

Insulating pipes can help keep water warm as it travels from the water heater. It can also help decrease the chance of pipes freezing, which can be disastrous. Check to see if your pipes are warm to the touch.

If so, consider adding insulation. You can get pre-slit pipe foam at most hardware stores. Cut it to size and fasten in place with duct tape.

**Insulate Your Water Heater Tank:** Insulating your water heater tank is fairly simple and inexpensive. Choose one with an insulating value of at least R-8. You can probably install an insulating pre-cut jacket or blanket on your electric water heater tank yourself.

Read and follow the directions carefully. Leave the thermostat access panel uncovered. Don't set the thermostat above 130°F on electric water heaters with an insulating jacket or blanket—the wiring may overheat. The installation of insulating blankets or jackets on gas and oil-filter water heater tanks is more difficult than those for electric water heater tanks.

It's best to have a qualified plumbing and heating contractor add the insulation.

**Weatherize Windows:** Windows provide a view to the outside, day lighting, ventilation, and solar heating in the winter. Unfortunately, they can also account for 10% to 25% of your heating bill. You can use a heavy-duty, clear plastic sheet on a frame or tape clear plastic to the inside of windows during the winter months.

The plastic must be sealed tightly to the frame to help reduce infiltration.

Add caulking around windowseals.

Open curtains on your south-facing windows during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat your home, and close them at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.

## Holiday garbage schedule

Trash will not be collected on Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year's Day.

If your regular trash day is Thursday, November 26, it will be picked up Friday, November 27. If your regular trash day is Friday, November 27, it will be picked up Saturday, November 28.

If your regular trash day is Friday, December 25, it will be picked up Saturday, December 26.

If your regular trash day is Friday, January 1, it will be picked up Saturday, January 2.

only full loads. Match the load setting with the amount of laundry to be washed if you must wash partial loads.

**Window A/C Units** can allow cool air to sneak through the cracks. During winter, you most likely won't be using your window A/C unit, so consider removing it from your window or purchase a quality tarp to cover the outside of the unit to reduce drafts.

**Bathroom Water Usage:** Use only as much water as you really need. A water-efficient showerhead often uses less water than a bath.

**Bundle Up Your Home:** Hidden gaps and cracks in a home can add up to as much airflow as an open window. The more heat that escapes, the more cold air enters, causing your system to work harder and use more energy. Home Sealing can improve your home's efficiency. Start by sealing air leaks and adding insulation. The biggest gaps are often in the attic.

*Conservation tips provided by the courtesy of the U.S. Department of Energy, EPA. Tx Water Development Board, and the City of Lockhart.*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# EDC updates plan, welcomes new business to Lockhart

The Lockhart Economic Development Corporation has a pair of noteworthy achievements to report as 2020 draws to a close.

First, the Lockhart Economic Development Corporation and the City of Lockhart adopted a new economic development plan that will frame Lockhart's growth over the next five years.

The adoption of the new plan followed a six-month study that provided answers about what key forces are driving Lockhart's economy, and identified business and industry segments whose needs match the city's competitive advantages.

The study that provided the backbone of Lockhart's economic development plan was the first of its kind for the Lockhart EDC.

Second, but not least, the Lockhart EDC is pleased to welcome Iron Ox, a leader in robotic farming that will expand its operations to the Caldwell County seat, acquiring a 25-acre plot for a new state-of-the-art facility that has plans to break ground before the end of the year.

The new facility will house the company's natural light greenhouses, processing operations and artificial-intelligence-enabled robots to bring fresh, clean and healthy food to customers and communities throughout Texas.

See the study that was instrumental in forming Lockhart's new growth plan and read about Iron Ox at [lockhartedc.com](http://lockhartedc.com).

## IN BRIEF

# Serve your city by joining a board or advisory committee

Your local government depends on committed volunteers to serve on its boards and advisory committees.

The City of Lockhart has 15 boards and committees that advise the Lockhart City Council on a wide range of matters.

To serve on a board or advisory committee, simply submit an application for consideration by the seven-member city council, which votes on appointments.

Visit [lockhart-tx.org](http://lockhart-tx.org) to learn about the boards and download an application.

Laundry Water Usage: Wash